Sudan rebels deny violating ceasefire

NAIROBI (AP) — A Southern Suddan rebel faction Monday denied violating a seven-week ceasefire and accused Sudan of making the allegations to justify a new offensive. Elijah Malok Aleng, spokesman for the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) faction led by John Garang, also accused the government of not observing the spirit or letter of the ceasefire in the first place. On Sunday, Major-General Mohammad Abdullah Oweida, Sudanese army spokesman, said Col. Garang's fighters had killed three government troops over the preceding five days. Gen. Oweida said the violations demonstrate Col. Garang's lack of respect for the ceasefire and his inshiliry to control his men. He said the soldiers were the ceasefire and his inability to control his men. He said the soldiers were killed when they drove over land mines planted by the insurgents in Equatoria state in the south. Another soldier was killed in SPLA shelling of the government-held town of Luka in the same state, he said. Col. Garang announced a unilateral ceasefire with the government March 1 to create what he called an atmosphere conductive to a second round of peace talks in Nigeria's capital, Abuja. The government reciprocated and announced it was cancelling a planned offensive.

Volume 17 Number 5316

AMMAN TUESDAY, MAY 25, 1993 THUL HIJEH 4, 1413

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

Yemen beat Pakistan

AMMAN (J.T.) - Yemen Monday beat Pakistan 5-1 in their Asian Group A World Cup qualifying matches in Irbid (half line 1-1). Earlier, Jordan and Iraq drew 1-1 (see page 9)

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RAMALLAH, occupied West Bank (AP) — The trial of an American citizen charged by Israeli authorities with involvement with an outlawed Islamic group was delayed one month Monday so he could brief a new lawyer. Mohammad Salah, 39, a resident of the Chicago area who was arrested in January for suspected membership in the Hamas organisation, had been due to go on trial Monday in the military court in Ramallah.

UNIFIL rotates unit through Beirut

BEIRUT (AP) - U.N beacekeeping troops made their first rotation through Beirut airport in 11 years Monday, signaliing renewed international confidence in the facility that had served as a haven for hijackers in civil war years. A Norwegian Boeing 737, chartered from Braathens Safe, landed at 10:35 a.m. (0735 GMT), carrying 110 Norwegian soldiers and officers. They replaced the same number of compatriots serving in the 890strong Norwegian contingent, the largest of the nine-nation United Nations Interim Force In Leba-non (UNIFIL) based in the south. The rotation was the first to be held at Beirut international airport since 1982, when Israel invaded Lebanon and the facility was closed for more than three months. After the invasion, UNI-FIL rotated troops via Israel's Tel Aviv airport.

Egyptian police kill 4 in south

ASSIUT (AP) - Security forces, fing from an armoured personnel carrier on residents of a southern Egypt town Monday, killed three and wounded a father and his son, police said. It was unclear whether the victims were Muslim extremists, or if the incident was related to radicals locked in a bloody confrontation with police. Major General Mahmoud Antar, Assiut security chief, said police were searching for arms in Abnub Al Hammam, 15 kilometre east of Assiut, when town residents resisted. An "exchange of fire" followed, he said, resulting in the civilian casualties.

Botha in Cairo

CAIRO (AP) - Foreign Minister Pik Botha arrived here Tuesday on a three-day official visit, the first to Egypt by a South African minister in 35 years. He visited Cairo in 1987 to attend peace talks on Namibia. Egypt's Foreign Minister Amr Mousa delegates his assistant, Saeed Rifaat, to greet the South African guest at Cairo international airport. Mr. Botha will have talks with Mr. Musa and President Hosni Mubarak during his stay.

Kashmir blast kills 18 Indian soldiers

SRINAGAR (R) - Eighteen Indian soldiers were killed in an explosion on a firing range in the northern state of Jammu and Kashmir, a defence spokesman said Monday. He said nine troops were seriously injured in the Sunday explosion in Leh, the main city in the Ladakh region of Kashmir, bordering China and Pakistan. "Preliminary reports suggest it was an accident," the spokesman said in Srinagar, Kashmir's summer capital. "An inquiry is underway.

Sri Lanka disbands secret police force

PUTTALAM, Sri Lanka (AP) -Sri Lanka's new government has closed the secret police force that the late President Ranasinghe Premadasa used to suppress his opponents. Mr. Premadasa, who was assassinated May 1, ran a government that was so authoritarian he often did not allow his The little of th Banda Wijetunga, a top Premadasa ally and much less auto-

Palestinians reject Rabin's 'Gaza first' self-rule offer

(Agencies) — Palestinian peace negotiators rejected Monday an Israeli suggestion to grant Palestinians self-rule first in the occu-

pied Gaza Strip. We are against the fragmentation or division, whether it is of the land or whether it is of the negotiating process or the sub-jects to be discussed," spokes-woman Hanan Ashrawi said.

She told Israel Radio the suggestion by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to his cabinet Sunday was at odds with Palestinian demands for a comprehensive settlement.

The two sides have for 19 months been negotiating how to enact an interim period of selfrule for the Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

A government official quoted Mr. Rabin as telling the cabinet Sunday that when agreement in principle was reached on an interim settlement, "I see nothing to prevent its being applied first

But Dr. Ashrawi said Palesti-

By Suleiman Al Khalidi

Reuter

AMMAN — Faisal Al Husseini,

delegation, said Monday reluc-

highest level whether to go ahead

with it or not and any reluctant

low the decision to continue

negotiating should resign," he

Shafi said Thursday the Palesti-

nians should suspend the talks

until Israel conceded self-rule

over all the occupied territories

including Arab East Jerusalem.

this was his personal view. He

tine Liberation Organisation (PLO) directed delegates to

attend a 10tth round of talks in

Ghassan Al Khatib and Samir

Chairman Yasser Arafat's deci-

a solution to Israel's expulsion of

400 Palestinians in December. The subsequent ninth round of said.

of interim Palestinian self-rule.

Washington next month.

the negotiating team if the Pales- Husseini said.

Two Palestinian negotiators, seini told Reuters.

told Reuters.

Israeli peace talks.

tant members of his team should the peace talks.

She said the suggestion apparently was motivated by Israel's view that Gaza is more difficult to control and lacking in what she called the "ideological

bias" of the West Bank. No date has been set for resuming the peace talks, which broke off in Washington earlier this

Palestinian officials said the issue was passed over without serious discussion at the last

Haidar Abdul Shafi, head of the Palestinian delegation to the bilateral talks, said he accepted Israel leaving Gaza on its own apart from an interim agreement. He said Palestinian leaders could get help from the United Nations, or Egypt and Jordan, to maintain law and order in such an event. Meanwhile Israel buzzed with

interpretations of Mr. Rabin's The "Gaza first" idea is tossed

Mr. Husseini rejected comments on Sunday by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin that

Palestinian self-rule could be im-

once principles were agreed at

"We are talking now about an

"But if Rabin is ready to un-

draw from... but this should not

Strikes to be limited

The PLO has decided to limit

the number of strikes in the occu-

because of the damage they cause

"It is no longer harming the

Israeli economy and is now only

harming ours by stopping produc-

now and it's not right that it

hours are needed in rebuilding

our economy," Mr. Husseini

McGovern, page 2

tion and businesses," Mr. Hus-

"Commercial strikes served

interim stage of Palestinian self-

divided and dealt with in parts,"

Mr. Husseini said.

periodically into the political winds, but Mr. Rabin's cryptic statement issued after a cabinet meeting Sunday brought it sharpnians viewed the territories as ly into focus in television, radio

Husseini: Reluctant

delegates should quit

head of the Palestinian peace plemented in the Gaza Strip first,

quit if they could not take the Palestinian stance would change

"Suspending negotiations reif Israel unilaterally withdrew
quires a political decision of the from the turbulent strip.

negotiator who is unable to fol-rule in its totality which cannot be

Mr. Husseini's comment ilaterally withdraw from Gaza or

underlined the mounting disarray any occupied territory then we

in Palestinian ranks over the fu-

ture of the 19-month-old Arab- affairs of any part that they with-

Dr. Abdul Shafi stressed that pied West Bank and Gaza Strip

said he would continue to lead to the Palestinian economy, Mr.

Abdullah, became the first to quit their purpose during a certain

the team in April after PLO period. That has come to an end

sion to return to the talks without should have a role now when all

talks ended in Washington with- Sayeh: Palestinians lost in talks

out agreement on the principles maze; Peace talks must not fail -

Chief negotiator Haidar Abdul be part of the negotiations."

The Israeli parliament, Knesset, scheduled a late afternoon debate on the issue. But noconfidence motions were called off because of an incident in which four Israeli soldiers were killed in Lebanon.

Mr. Rabin said that any agreement had to be reached within the framework of negotiations in

"However, when an agreement is reached in principle on an interim settlement, there is nothing preventing its being applied first in Gaza," press reports quoted the statement as saying.

The only elaboration was that it was not a message to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) accepting its offer to run the Gaza Strip if Israel wanted to pull out.

The vague statement was widely seen as a trial balloon to get the alestinians talking again after the ninth round that ended in Washington May 13 failed to produce a statement of princi-

"This can create a positive atmosphere. This is an attempt by Begin of Likud.

as excessive and leading to

wide range of precautions" be-

A report by the Betselem

troyed and 53 houses damaged in

15 operations which led to the

"According to our numbers,

the capture of each wanted man

entailed the destruction of three

houses, the partial destruction of

three others and making 40 peo-

ple homeless," Betselem spokes-man Yuvai Ginbar told reporters.

Israeli troops order Palesti-nians out of their homes through

loudspeakers, then open fire on

the houses with rocket-propelled

grenades, submachine guns and

Betselem said that the army

has used anti-tank missiles in

The army acknowledged using

"rockets and other devices" but

specifically denied the use of anti-

of the 15 searches chronicled in

the report, no men were cap-

of the army, which is to use heavy

Mr. Ginbar noted that in eight

"We agree with the stated aims

searches since last September.

other weapons...

tank missiles.

death or capture of 19 Palesti-

Betselem lambasts

house demolitions

by saying that the army "takes a occupied Gaza Strip.

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM firepower to flush out armed men

(AP) - An Israeli human rights in order to save lives," Mr. Gin-

group Monday criticised the bar said. "But destroying a whole

Israeli army's destruction of neighbourhood to capture one

homes by weapons fire during man is out of proportion to those searches for Palestinian activists aims."

An army statement responded The other 14 took place in the

fore opening fire on homes where for not pursuing compensation

"wanted" men are suspected of for families. An army statement

(Israeli Information Centre for Hu-main Rights in the Occupied Ter-Barak, the military chief of staff,

ritories) said 49 houses were des- who had said in March that the

first time with a real problem," said Uzi Baram, the tourism minister and frequent spokesman

for the Labour Party. The prevailing interpretation was that there was enough fog around the statement to keep Israel from being committed to the idea, while giving the impression of a promise of immediate action if the basic principles were agreed on.

Labour whip Eli Dayan said the full five years of interim autonomy foreseen in the occupied territories would not be needed before a final agreement on Gaza. Likud whip Moshe Katzav also told Israel Radio he was not opposed to the Gaza first

But one senior Likud bloc figure charged immediately that it

was yet another capitulation. "We have to keep Gaza under Israeli control, both as a buffer between Sinai under Arab control and (the city of) Ashkelon, and as a very serious source of terror against Jews," said Benny

Only one of the searches took

place in the occupied West Bank.

Betselem also faulted the army

said it was open to all applica-

tions, but Betselem contrasted this with a quote from Ehud

army should initiate compensa-

The human rights group also

criticised the army for saying it

would compensate only those

families who had not knowingly

hidden the wanted men. It de-

scribed this exclusionary policy as

a form of collective punishment

which violated Israeli and inter-

national law.
Also faulted were reports of

dents by soldiers. In some cases,

male residents were bound and

(Continued on page 10)

Closure slows Israeli economy,

Jordan today celebrates independence anniversary

AMMAN — (J.T.) Today Jordan marks the 47th anniversary of its independence from Bri-

The Kingdom achieved its independence in 1946, fulfilling one of the objectives of the Great Arab Revolt, which aimed at liberating Arab countries from foreign domination.

The Great Arab Revolt was launched by the late King Hussein Ben Ali early this century. On the eve of the anniversary, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that Jordanians mark this year's Independence Day while enjoying achievements in various fields of economic, political social and cultural life — never accomplished before.

"Under His Majesty King Hussein's rule, the country has realised the first steps towards establishing institutions oriented towards enhancing democracy, freedom, political pluralism and respect for human rights," it said.

"This year's anniversary," it said, "coincides with the celebrations commemorating the 40th anniversary of the King's assumption of his constitutions powers, with citizens looking back with pride at various remarkable achievements under the King's reign."
Petra said the anniversary

also falls close to preparations for the second parliamentary

years, "contributing towards the strengthening of democracy and political stability.'

Petra said the anniversary reminds Jordanians of "ttheir task of enhancing cohesion and national unity in the face of dangers posed by the continued Israeli occupation of Arab territories and the expansionist Israeli policies."

"On this occasion, Jordanians recall the achievements' their country made under King Hussein who dedicated his life and effort to serving his homeland," it said.

Referring to the situation on Independence Day, the agency recalled that the late King Abdullah Ben Al Hussein. founder of the Kingdom, proclaimed Jordan a sovereign and independent state on May 25,

"Since then, Jordan has charted an objective policy derived from the principles of the Great Arab Revolt and turned it into a base for its moves at both the Arab and internation

al levels," it said. "King Hussein enhanced the pillars of independence and has been diligently striving towards building modern Jordan through creating the right circumstances in all aspects of Jordanian life," Petra said.

Recounting Jordan's accomplishments, Petra said the country's modern history and democratic rule set a good example for other Arab states. and referred to the achievements in social, cultural, agricultural and industrial fields.

Under King Hussein, Petra said, "Jordan has indeed become one of the main beacons of the Middle East, serving as a model of national unity, stability and security in a turbulent Tuesday has been declared a

public holiday to mark the anniversary. All government departments and public institutions will remain closed.

Celebrations to mark Independence Day, page 3; Struggie for independence, page 4

elections in Jordan in four

WASHINGTON (Agencies) -Secretary of State Warren Christopher responded Monday with a stiff warning to reports that the Iraqi government was preparing to attack the Kurdish area in

warns Iraq

northern Iraq.
"We will be watching very carefully for any change in that situation that might call for further action by the United States,"

Mr. Christopher said. According to a story in Mon-day's New York Times, the Iraqi assault apparently would be intended to recapture Kurdish-held territory south of a "no-fly" zone that the United States, Britain

and France established two years

The action was based on the allies' interpretation of U.N. humiliating treatment of resi-Security Council resolutions designed to further weaken the Iraqi government following its debeaten as the army conducted the feat in the 1990 Gulf war. "We intend to enforce the

search, and in other cases, they were denied access to food or U.N. resolutions with great resoluteness," Mr. Christopher said Betselem, which means "in the while posing for pictures with Foreign Minister Ben Alawai of image," monitors human rights violations against criteria that the Oman, a Gulf member of the war Israeli authorities have set for

themselves. It was founded by "He knows what he has to do," Israeli lawyers and professors. Mr. Christopher said of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Iraq warns Kuwait

Iraq warned Kuwait Monday that it could still fight, and would if its rights were abused.

"Iraq's full adherence to Security Council resolutions.... cannot

Baath Party.
The article by Nouri Al Marsoumi, senior under-secretary of the Ministry of Information, was Iraq's latest reaction to the realignment of its border with Kuwait by a post-Gulf war U.N.

Mr. Marsoumi accused Kuwait of "conspiracy and provocation" and said it must "treat Iraq's legitimate rights in land, sovereignty and wealth in accordance with the principles of jus-

"Security Council resolutions... permit Iraq to possess arms that secure for it the ability to defend itself," he wrote "If Iraq's patience runs out, we

warn that ditches and walls will be no defence. "The thieves of Kuwait" -

meaning the Kuwaiti ruling family, who fled to Saudi Arabia during Iraq's 1990-91 occupation — "will not find anyone this time." to carry them to Riyadh," he

said. Kuwaitis 'insecure,' page 2

Christopher Queen urges students to seek equity, justice

BOSTON (R) — Queen Noor, vironmental destruction." invoking the 1970s U.S. campus tice and peace.

Queen Noor, delivering an at Boston College, recalled her risks." own experiences in the early

the civil rights movement, anti- "And so today we look to you, activism unparallelled before or have done."

"In the course of these activism in which she took part, tests, some students lost their called on university students lives, some, myself included, Monday to fight for equity, jus- were tear-gassed, and some were jailed," Queen Noor said. "Perhaps we weren't always right address at graduation ceremonies but we were willing to take

Queen Noor told the students 1970s when she attended Prince- hundreds of millions of their ton University in New Jersey. peers throughout the world That era — during the days of shared their dreams.

Vietnam war protests and the and to your generation, to revitaibeginning of environmental and ise our shared quest for equity, ecological awareness - was justice and peace," she said. "We marked by widespread campus expect you to do better than we

"Remember always that those "We demonstrated and strug-gled to advance the spirit and 1960s and 1970s who pioneered gains of the civil rights move-the politics of youth look to you ment," said Queen Noor. "We today to continue the struggle challenged institutionalised en- that we began."

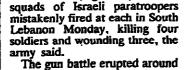
Velayati discusses regional, Islamic issues in Bahrain

MANAMA (Agencies) — Iran's situation in the region aside from foreign minister. Ali Akbar a number of current Islamic and velayati, visited Bahrain Monday with a message to the ruling emir from President Hashemi Rafsan-Mr. Velayati on a tour of the six

According to the official Gulf member countries of the Gulf News Agency, the message to Cooperation Council (GCC). Sheikh ben Salman Al Khalifa The tour, which started Wednesdealt with "the bilateral ties be- day in Saudi Arabia, is an tween the two friendly states and means of consolidating them."

The message also dealt with the chies.

fire' kills 4 Israeli soldiers be taken to mean that that Iraq should accept violations of its territory," said an article in Al TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Two Thawra, newspaper of the ruling



4:30 a.m. (0130 GMT) in the central sector of Israel's selfdeclared "security zone" in South Lebanon, an army announcement The soldiers were carrying out

an operation and "as a result of a misunderstanding in the field... both forces exchanged fire which caused the injuries," the army statement said. The army said the shooting was under investigation. An army official refused to

comment when asked whether the operation was connected to an Israeli helicopter attack against the homes of two Lebanese activists in the same area. The helicopter raid was launched at daybreak.

Monday's shooting marked the worst army blunder since five soldiers were killed by a misfired missile during a Nov. 5 training exercise in the southern desert.



An Israeli soldier is evacuated by helicopter after being wounded early Monday in a 'friendly fire' incident in South Lebanon (AFP photo)

The November incident fol- army. lowed a series of earlier training there as a lack of discipline in the Lieutenant-General Ehud Barak.

Some of the complaints were accidents, and critics charged aimed at Chief of Staff

widely seen as having a political future. He has been mentioned as a possible successor to Prime, (Continued on page 10)

Upon the Occasion of

INDEPENDENCE DAY



ARAB BANK

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and to the PEOPLE OF JORDAN

Its most cordial wishes and greetings

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Sayeh says Palestinians Peace talks lost in peace talks maze must not fail

DUBAI (R) - Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Sayeh, who is quitting as speaker of the Palestinian parliament in exile, has told a Gulf newspaper the Palestinian people have lost their way over peace talks with Israel.

"The Palestinian people should know which path they are following and what aim they are working for," the United Arab Emirates (UAE) newspaper Al-Khaleei quoted him as saying in an interview.

"The Palestinian people want to know. They do not want to be told 'we want to negotiate,' then be told 'there are no results from negotiations." then hear that talks are suspended 'until Israel takes positive steps' or 'until the United States takes up its responsibility."

"It is not acceptable that we continue negotiations without reaching any results... we should have some gains. Why else nego-

Sheikh Sayeh, 86, has in the past been close to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat while commanding respect from all PLO factions.

His call on Saturday for suspension of U.S.-sponsored peace. talks with Israel and announcement that he was standing down as speaker highlighted differences

in Palestinian ranks. The PLO let local leaders from the West Bank and Gaza Strip resume talks in Washington last month in spite of anger over Israel's December expulsion of more than 400 activists.

Opponents of the talks say the Palestinians have gained next to nothing after more than a year of negotiations while conditions in the occupied territories worsen. Sheikh Sayeh told Al Khaleei that before he could reconsider

his resignation "matters should

first be straightened out and mistakes put right."

"If matters were straightened and put on the right path, then I will not resign," he told the news-

Sheikh Sayeh suffered a stroke earlier this year. He told the newspaper that his health was also a factor in his resignation.

AP adds: The Arab participants in the peace talks — the Palestinians, Syria, Jordan and Lebanon — plan to meet in Amman early June to evaluate the last round of peace negotiations which ended in Washington earlier this month and prepare for the next round in June.

Hardline Palestinians have been demanding that their delegation quit the talks to protest the lack of progress and Israel's refusal to repatriate nearly 400 Palestinians it banished to Lebanon in December.

The Palestinians had suspended their participation in the peace process to protest the mass expulsion, but agreed to rejoin the talks April 27 hoping that the United States would pressure Israel to offer some concessions in return for their flexibility.

But Israel offered only a slightly amended version of an old proposal for limited self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and stuck to its refusal to end the occupation of these territories.

Sheikh Sayeh announced Saturday he would step down at the next session of the 451member PNC, which he has chaired since 1984.

No date for a PNC meeting has been set. But Sheikh Sayeh's intention to resign indicated that Mr. Arafat was losing support for his effort to continue the peace

-McGovern

RABAT (R) — Former U.S. Senator George McGovern said Monday at the end of a ninenation Middle East tour that he did not think the Arab-Israeli peace talks would fail despite strong pressure from extremists on both sides.

Mr. McGovern, the 1972 Democratic presidential candidate who now heads the Washington-based Middle East Policy Council think tank, told a news conference:

"There is a strong sense of urgency that it is absolutely imperative that the talks should not fail."

He said that on his return to Washington he would report on his tour to his "old friends" President Bill Clinton and Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

"I think the U.S. should play an active role...I think the U.S. has to put strong pressure on the Israeli government and Palesti-nian leaders...I do not think they (the talks) will fail," Mr. Mcgovern said. He said the 19-month-old talks

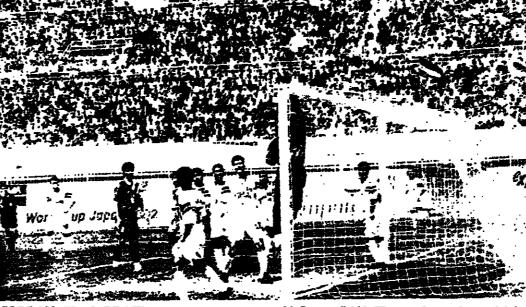
had been stalled by radicals who wished to wreck the process. "The central problem is that extremist elements on each side are making it very difficult for the

negotiators to act as free agents." "In Israel settlers are intinsifying pressure not to cede an inch of land and threatening violence. That position has to change," he said. "On the Palestinian side I think they are serious about a negotiated settlement but they also are being pressured by ex-

tremists." On his tour he conferred with President Al Assad of Syria, King Hussein, the sultan of Oman, and senior officials in Israel, Egypt. Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Могоссо.

The formal declaration of inde-

of fireworks, singing and dancing as thousands in Asmara and tiny hilltop hamlets across the country



JORDAN, IRAO DRAW: Jordan's goalkeeper with Iraq at Irbid. The match was drawn 1-1 (se Mohammad Abu Daoud averts a goal Monday during a Group A World Cup qualifying match

feted the fruits of Africa's longest

Eritrean liberation movements

fought against rule from the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa,

for 30 years until Tigre and Ent-rean rebels joined forces to top-

much of their struggle by successive governments in Sudan -

support which strained ties be-

Sudan's military ruler Lieutenant-General Omar Has-

san Al Bashir took part in the

ceremonies to symbolise a new

and Ethiopia.

ment and Ethiopia.

states previously at war.

ASMARA (R) - Fireworks exploded and thousands chanted in joy when Eritrea formally became the world's newest state at midnight after 30 years of civil

Isavas Afewerki, the 46-yearold leader of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) hailed the event as a new dawn for a people who have known nothing but conflict for decades.

He was formally elected president at a weekend meeting of the EPLF's ruling council before the proclamation of independence.

Diplomats from about 50 nations and heads of state from Eritrea's neighbours took part in festivities which began before midnight on Sunday and went on after dawn on Monday.

Dozens of war casualties in wheelchairs took part in a march past in a poignant reminder of the human cost of creating the state and the redrawing of Africa's post-colonial map for the first

pendence and the unfurling of the Eritrean flag was marked by the ullulation of hundreds of women in the stadium.

it will help bring peace to the Horn of Africa, which has known It was followed by an explosion little but war for three decades. The ceremony was also attended by a representative of the United Nations and the

Organisation of African Unity. Last month about 1.3 million Mr. Isayas arrived at Asmara's registered voters decided overwhelmingly for independence from Ethiopia in a referendum supervised by the United Nabattered city stadium accompanied by Ethiopian President Meles Zenawi to symbolise the new relationship between two

> Eritrea was colonised by Italy at the end of the 19th century. In 1952 the country was federated with Ethiopia by the United Na-

1962 Ethiopian Emperor ple dictator Mengistu Haile Mariam in 1991. Haile Selassie dissolved the federation and united the Red Sea They were supported during province with the rest of the country, touching off a war which killed hundreds of thousands and wrecked the economies of both tween the governments of Sudan

> The EPLF estimates that it will need more than \$2 billion to repair an economy bombed to a standstill but to date Western donors have piedged only \$28

era of peace between his govern-Hundreds of thousands of peo-Djibouti's President Hassan ple were made refugees in the conflict and went into exile in Gouled Aptidon also attended to highlight his approval of Entrean countries as far apart as Sudan and the United States. independence and the hope that

Aid agencies estimate that up to one third of Eritrea's 3.5 million people are dependent upon food handouts and will continue to be so until agriculture can be rehabiliated.



Asked about relations with the West, Mr. Rafsanjani, according to IRNA, said Tehran sought cooperation with all world states

said, "they are still hostile against the Islamic Republic of Iran, and we have serious disputes with them.'

"If the assets were freed, then we would make up our mind" about restoring ties, severed after Iranian militants seized the U.S. embassy in Tehran in November 1979 and held 52 American hos-

Reuter adds: In an interview in Time magazine on Sunday, Mr. Rafsanjani said Iran used its influence to win the release of U.S. hostages in Lebanon, but all it got in return was grief from its friends and tough talk from Washington.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Saudis remind pilgrims of political ban

DUBAI (R) - Saudi Arabia has warned that it would severely punish anyone who passes out political leaflets, books or tapes during this year's pilgrimage to Mecca. An Interior Ministry statement carried by Saudi Press Agency Sunday night said that "...it is strictly forbidden to distribute pamphlets, books or tapes during the Haj season. Anyone who does such things will be brought to account and severely punished." The kingdom has issued several similar warnings in the last few months. More than 700,000 Muslims from around the world including 100,000 Iranians have flocked to Saudi Arabia for the annual pilgrimage to Islam's holiest city and thousands more are still arriving. The Haj reaches its climax on May 30, ninth day of the holy month of Dhu'i-Hijja.

Yemeni company invites foreign investors

ADEN, Yemen (R) — A company seeking to build the first cement factory in southern Yemen is offering shares worth \$45 million to foreign investors, the firm's director general told Reuters. Fouad Mohammad Abdul Karim said the offer by Batais, Company for Cement Industry was in line with government policy to give the private sector a greater role in industry. He said shares would be offered first to foreign investors, and more would be offered if the first batch, which represented 45 per cent of the company's capital, were fully subscribed. The Aden-based company was established in 1984 with 70 per cent of its capital owned by the government of former Marxist South Yemen and 30 per cent by the Palestine Liberation Organisation. It was set up to build a 500,000-tonne per year cement factory in Batais, 90 kilometres east of Aden. Mr. Abdul Karim said the firm spent \$250,000 on feasibility studies and \$3.25 millon on studies on raw materials. It had also guaranteed enough electricity to run the factory and dug seven water wells and built a road leading to the site.

Hong Kong to take over frozen Iraqi funds

HONG KONG (AP) - The Hong Kong government said Monday it is ordering banks to hand over Iraqi funds that were frozen under United Nations sanctions. It said it was empowered by London to write to nearly 400 financial institutions in the British colony, ordering them to surrender the funds in compliance with U.N Resolution 778 of last October. Resolution 778 allows for frozen Iraqi assets to be transferred to a fund for financing post-Gulf war reconstruction and the U.N. inspection teams in Iraq. "The government will take all necessary measures to implement the order," said a statement from the Hong Kong government's Financial Services branch. It said the order also requires the sale of Iraqi-powned petroleum and petroleum products in Hong Kong, with the proceeds to go to the United Nations. A Financial Services official, Anthony O'Brien, said he did not know how much money might be involved, or why the action was being taken only now.

11 die in mushroom poisoning in Iran

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) - Eleven people have died after eating poisonous mushrooms during the harvest season in western Kermanshah province, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported Sunday. It said 17 people remained in hospital and dozens of others who ate the same mushrooms have been treated and sen

Herzog hospitalised with respiratory infection

TEL AVIV (AP) - Former Israeli President Chaim Herzog was hospitalised with a respiratory infection Sunday night, the Itim news agency reported. Mr. Herzog, who only stepped down on May 13, was feeling well and expected to be released from the Tel Hahsomer hosp&ital in Tel Aviv within two days, Itim said. Ezer Weizman succeeded Mr. Herzog, who had served in the influential but largely ceremonial post for two terms of five years each. The Irish-born Herzog, 74, has also served as a legislator, an ambassador to the United Nations and as a general in the Israeli army. He was trained as a lawyer and is known for his writings and radio

Egyptian court rules military trials legal

CAIRO (R) - Egypt's supreme administrative court has ruled that President Hosni Mubarak had the right to refer 48 Muslim militants for trial in a military court that sentenced eight of them to death in December. Cairo newspapers said Monday the court overturned a decision by the lower administrative court, which judged that the militants should not have been tried in a military court because they were civilians. The supreme administrative court said Mr. Mubarak had the right to transfer any case he deemed necessary to a military court under the state of emergency which has been in force for much of the time since his predecessor, Anwar Sadat, was assassinated by Muslim militants in 1981. Mr. Mubarak, fighting to suppress a wave of political violence that has killed more than 120 people in the last 14 months, began to refer militant cases to military courts last year because they would act faster and be less vulnerable to intimidation. The ruling clears the way for 16 death sentences imposed by military courts to be carried out. The 48, who were tried in Alexandria, were the first militants to be transferred to a military court. The Alexandria court later sentenced a ninth man to death for killing a policeman. Since then, a military court in Cairo has sentenced seven men to death.

Egypt passes budget in line with IMF target

CAIRO (R) - The Egyptian parliament approved on Monday 1993/94 budget which according to Western economists is broadly in line with a 3.5 per cent deficit target proposed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Parliament made no major amendment to the draft which the government presented in April. It envisages boosting public sector salaries and military spending but cutting food subsidies as part of IMF-backed economic reforms begun in 1991. The budget for the financial year starting on July 1 put total expenditure at 65.3 billion pounds (\$19.78 billion), a 4.5 per cent rise on the 1992/93 draft budget total of 62.5 billion (\$18.90 billion). It calculated the deficit at 8.98 billion pounds (\$2.72 billion), marginally down from 9.10 billion pounds (\$2.75 billion) in 1992/93. Western economists say government figures do not use internationally recognised spending and revenue categories and so direct comparison in with IMF figures was not possible.

Algeria to convene national conference

ALGIERS (R) — Algeria's leaders, fighting a war against Islamic fundamentalists, are to organise a national conference to seek a consensus on ways to return the ccuntry to democracy.

Algeria has been under a state of emergency since February last year. It has no parliament and no date has been set for fresh elections to replace multiparty general elections cancelled after a first round of voting in January 1992.

The collective presidency, which took over in the same month, said Sunday in a statement carried by the official news agency APS it will hold talks with political parties and associations to lay the groundwork for the conference.

It said the resumed talks, starting next Tuesday, "will enable the focus to be put on ways and means of (handling) the transition period.

"This important step in the dialogue will also prepare the foundations of national consensus whose contours will be defined during a national conference grouping all partners to the talks," it added. - The collective presidency took

over after President Chadli Benjedid resigned following a landslide first-round lead by Islamic fundamentalists in the general election.

- Earlier this year it held talks with political and other groups on ways to return Algeria to a multiparty democratic state.

It invited all groups except those who supported "terrorism" - the official term for Islamic militants who are fighting the government.

Kuwaitis 'insecure' despite demarcation of border

KUWAIT (R) -- Kuwait Sunday welcomed as historic the final U.N. demarcation of its border with Iraq but analysts said security worries caused by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's continued

II oil wells to Kuwait under the demarcation could lead to further trouble from President Saddam, who ordered the 1990 invasion of

U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali Thursday declared as final the work of a U.N. border commission that has demarcated the Jisputed 1963 boundary, one

reason for Baghdad's invasion. Dr. Ghali called on Iraq to reverse its refusal to accept the decisions of the commission, including the previously unmarked

land border it demarcated a year Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Dakhil said the cabinet at its weekly

meeting expressed deep satisfaction with the commission's work. Kuwait affirmed complete adherence to its decisions and described the demarcation as his-

Mr. Dakhil added the cabinet had approved \$25 million contribution to U.N. peacekeeping operations around the world. "The commission...is an im-

portant response by the United Nations to remove permanently a recurrent source of regional tension," Tarek Razzouqi, Kuwait's representative on the commission, said in a paper summarising the demarcation.

"The demarcation of the bor-der is a relief," said Abdullah Al Shayeji, political science professor at Kuwait University.

"But the oil wells might be considered contentious. I am afraid we might be sowing the seeds of future confrontation and future claims against-Kuwait. On

this I am fearful." "Iraq's rejection of the land and sea border demarcation faces

the whole weight of world opinion, which is in favour of the demarcation," said a senior forehostility would linger.

The analysts said the transfer of ign diplomat.
"But politically, the issue of the oil wells could create uneasiness in Kuwait over the years to

come," he added. The wells are in an oil reservoir that straddless the northern sector of the border. The main part of the reservoir remains in Iraq

where it is called South Rumailah. Baghdad charged before the crisis that Kuwait had been tapping oil when it drilled on its side of the border in a field Kuwait

calls Rutga. The demarcation commission asserted that it was Iraq that had

gore beyond its borders. Kuwaiti oil officials say they will try to pump oil from the 11 wells just as soon as unexploded munitions left over from the Gulf

war are cleared up. The commission insists it has not drawn a new boundary between the two countries or reallocated territory.

Instead it has "simply carried out the technical task necessary to demarcate, for the first time, the precise coordinates of the international boundary reaffirmed in the agreed minutes'

between the two countries.

Information Minister Sheikh Saud Nasser Al Saud Al Sabah, said in a recent interview with Reuters that security remained by far the most important issue in Kuwait after the war.

"There still exists here a sense of insecurity because of the continuation of the presence of the Iraqi regime and the threats and media attacks by Iraq and its friends in the Arab World against Kuwait," Sheikh Saud said.

Rafsanjani says economy is healthy

NICOSIA (AP) — Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani, campaigning for reelection next month, has boasted that Iran's economy was healthy, despite growing public discontent and violent riots.

He told a news conference in Tehran that during his four-year term in office, Iran saw unprecedented economic growth. Mr. Rafsanjani, 59, is seeking a

econd four-year term in the June 11 race. Three other candidates, none of them a major figure, also have been cleared to run for office.

The official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) quoted Mr. Rafsanjani as saying that Iran's production index and potential have maintained an "upward trend" since 1989 with the economic

growth reaching 8.3 per cent. This "is very high compared to figures around the world," he added, according to IRNA, monitored in Nicosia.

Unemployment, he said, dropped from 14.9 per cent to 11 per cent and annual imports of wheat, which ran at 5 million tonnes, were reduced by half despite the population increase. Iran's population growth, estimated at two million a year, is one of the highest in the world. Iran currently has a 58 million population.

Mr. Rafsanjani also said 800,000 students were enrolled at the country's universities, a two fold increase over the 1989 figure He noted the increase in oil production capacity, which his oil minister, Gholamreza Agazadeh, last week estimated at 4.3 million barrels a day, up from 2.5 million barrels a day four years ago.

Mr. Rafsanjani, however, made no direct reference to the violent riots that have plagued several Iranian cities in recent months. Industries have been hit by strikes as employees demanded higher wages.

Mr. Rafsanjani is a charismatic middle-ranking cleric who has held senior positions since the Islamic revolution seized power in 1979

A former parliament speaker, he won a landslide victory against nondescript rivals in the July 1989 presidential election. He has tried to mend ties with

the West to attract much-needed investment and development. His failure to do so has prevented the revival of the Iran's moribund economy and allowed his radical. fundamentalist rivals to exploit that to curb his influence.

In the forthcoming race, he will compete against former Labour Minister Ahmad Tavakoli, former Parliament Deputy Rajab Ali Taheri and Abdullah Jafar Ali Jasebi, a university chancel-

It is not clear if his radical opponents would be able to rally behind a single candidate to bring him down



Hashemi Rafsanian

except for two countries — South Africa and Israel. "As for the United States," he

He said Washington must free

billions of dollars in assets frozen after the Iranian revolution.

tages for 444 days.

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Home News



ARMY HEADQUARTERS: Prime Minister Hafez Marai Al Kaabneh. The premier and Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker Monday visits Army the Lt.-General discussed several issues of Headquarters and meets with Chairman of the concern to the Jordanian Armed Forces (Petra Joint Chiefs of Staff Lieutenant General Abdul

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday sent a

cable to Entrean President Issaias Afeworki congratulating him in

his name and on behalf of the Jordanian people and government

on his country's independence from Ethiopia. King Hussein

wished Mr. Afeworki good health and happiness and the Eritrean

people further progress and prosperity. King Hussein Monday sent a similar cable to Argentine President Carlos Menem to congratulate him on Argentina's national day.

Free medical day organised in Wadi Musa

WADI MUSA (Petra) — Her Royal Higness Princess Alia Bint

Al Hussein Monday attended the activities of a free medical day

organised in Wadi Musa, near Petra. The day included offering medical services free of charge to the citizens of the town and

delivering lectures on health issues. Princess Alia distributed

health aids to several handicapped persons in the town and met

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Social Development Amin Mashaqbeh Wednesday will open the annual exhibition of

handicrafts produced by students at the workshops of the Ruseifa

Handicapped Training and Rehabilitation-Centre. The exhibition

which is held in observance of Independence Day will last three

days.

Education panel reviews French curriculum

AMMAN (Petra) — The Education Council will meet Tuesday

under the chairmanship of Deputy Premier and Education

Minister Thougan Al Hindawi to review four working papers on

teaching French at government schools. Other topics will discuss

NORTH SHUNEH (Petra) - The Jordan Electricity Authority

(JEA) Monday embarked on installing electricity poles and laying

cables at the Kraimeh town in the Jordan Valley. The project is

being implemented within the framework of the electrification of

rural regions - a programme which will be completed by the end

Bulgarian official to arrive for trade talks

AMMAN (Petra) — The Bulgarian minister of industry will arrive here on June 6 on a two-day visit to Jordan for talks with his Jordanian counterpart and senior Jordanian officials on economic

cooperation and the possibility of enhancing the volume of trade

Ministry to participate in Japan education programme

AMMAN (Petra) - The Ministry of Education will take part in

an education programme to open in Japan on June 16. The two

Egypt-Jordan company to review projects

AMMAN (J.T.) — Egyptian Minister of International Cooperation Maurice Makramallah is due in Amman Wednesday at the

head of a team that will take part in the meetings of the

Jordanian-Egyptian Holding Company. The company, estab-

lished in 1988, is responsible for economic projects carried out in

Jordan and Egypt. The Ministry of Industry and Trade here said

that discussions at the meetings will cover progress made on these

1st pan-Arab water workshop to start in Libya

AMMAN (Petra) - The Jordanian Engineers Association (JEA)

will participate in the first pan-Arab workshop on water resources in the Arab World to open in Libya Tuesday. Several working papers on water resources, dams, water projects and related issues will be reviewed in the three-day workshop. The partici-

pants will inspect Libya's water projects including the man-made Libyan river.

week programme will tackle education in Japan.

between both countries.

the Arab language curriculum in the secondary stage.

JEA begins electrification of Kraimeh

Ruseifa handicapped children's exhibit to open

with citizens and heard their demands.

King congratulates Eritrea, Argentina

to mark Jordan's Independence Day

Parliament Speaker Abdul Latif Arabiyat Monday underlined the role of women in the introducing positive changes in the Jordanian

In an address at a celebration organised by the Balqa governo-rate's Women's Federation at Al Salt Cultural Centre, on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of-His Majesty King Hussein's assumption of his constitutional powers and Independence Day, Dr. Arabiyat called for adhering to the noble norms and values of the Jordanian society.

Dr. Arabiyat, who is a Muslim Brotherhood deputy, reviewed achievements accomplished in Jordan under His Majesty King Hussein and voiced hope that the Arab nation will unify its ranks to

Balga Federation President Najah Abu Hazim also delivered an address in which she reviewed the significance of the two national occasions, outlining changes that took place in the Kingdom since its independence.

Ms Abu Hazeem said King Hussein has devoted his life to promoting Jordan's status in the world and was always an advocate of the causes of his country and nation.

Prince attends celebration

Also on the occasion, Their Royal Highnesses Prince Faisal Ben Al Hussein and Princess Alia Al Faisal attended a celebration organised by Philadelphia Uni-

Celebrations begin | Children's nutrition declines by 16%, says recent survey



Experts advise health authorities to instruct Jordanian mothers on sound and healthy feeding habits for their children (file photo)

By a Jordan Times

Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Initial results of a survey conducted recently in Jordan to determine the level and quality of nutrition among Jordanian children has revealed that their nutrition has declined by at least 16 per cent, as a result of the events in the past few years.
A source at UNICEF (the Un-

ited Nations Children's Fund) told the Jordan Times that the rising rate of unemployment. poverty and the general difficult economic conditions in the Kingdom were behind the downturn in children's nutrition levels. A day-long seminar to review

the survey's results was organised Saturday by the Health Ministry in cooperation with UNICEF.
It ended with a call on the concerned health authorities to instruct mothers on sound and and to remove mal-practices that tend to adversely affect children's According to the UNICEF

source, the deterioration in the level of nutrition was apparent in an initial examination of the survey results, but detailed studies of this survey, which are underway. could provide a cléarer picture of the situation.

The seminar aimed at evaluating the survey, conducted on 800 Jordanian children under five years of age, from various gov-ernorates, by determining the nature and quality of the food they

A statement at the end of the meetings urged the health authorities to conduct accurate studies to determine the extent of manutrition and anaemia among children and women and to provide better health services to those

The statement said children especially those between six and 36 months old, should have iron and iodine added to their food to reduce their chance of becoming

The statement also called for a series of studies to be conducted on children in orde: to determine the cause of low birth weight so that appropriate measures can be taken to correct the problem. Furthermore, the statement

urged the health authorities to spread public awareness about avoiding early marriages and marriages among close relatives, and to conduct pre-natal ex-

Dr. Mamoun Maabreh of the Health Ministry said that the survey was aimed at determining the extent to which social and economic factors affect the general health and nutrition levels of

healthy means of feeding children areas where mal-nutrition exists. Banking institute marks anniversary

AMMAN (Petra) - The tion with U.S. and British univer-Amman-based Arab Institute for Banking Studies (AIBS) Monday start by the beginning of the next marked the end of its fourth anniversary by announcing plans to open training programmes for post-graduate students wishing to obtain their doctoral degrees in

banking.
AIBS Director General Mustafa Hudeib told a press conference that the doctoral degree programme will be organised in coopera-

academic year.

AIBS has thus graduated 5,000 bankers, who are now working in the Arab World, from training courses designed to upgrade their qualifications and promote their

performance, said Dr. Hudeib. In the past two years, 137 post-graduate students graduated degrees or diplomas in banking, noted Dr. Hudeib. At present. AIBS is organising

post-graduate courses for those wishing to obtain masters degrees in business administration — a curriculum being implemented for the first time by the institute. said Dr. Hudeib. Generally speaking, AIBS was

able to make major strides over the past four years despite from the institute with masters numerous difficulties,



Students at the Nazek Al Hariri Centre for Special Education enjoy fun on the playground

Handicapped children's art contest draws 11 young Arab winners public attention to the children's

AMMAN (J.T.) — Handicapped Jordanian artists judged the 557 children from ten Arab countries paintings and sketches and Monday took part in a drawing selected 11 winning works. and sketch competition organised at the Nazek Al Hariri special sented awards to: training centre for the handicap-

The centre's director, Yaser Salem, said Nazek Al Hariri holds annual competitions for handicapped children, but this year the event marked the first time the competition was held at the pan-Arab level.

A total of 220 children contributed 557 drawings and sketches, according to Dr. Salem. He said the participants were between six and 18 years of age and their entries were divided

into three age groups: Six to nine, 10 to 14 and 15 to 18 years. The participating countries

Dr. Salem noted that the cenwere: Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, tre offers academic and vocation-Egypt, Sudan, Qatar, Bahrain,

the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Lebanon, Iraq, Syria and Jordan, said Dr. Salem. The drawings were sent by

children in the other Arab countries through their respective embassies in Jordan, Dr. Salem told the Jordan Times.

attended by a large number of Arab and foreign diplomats in centres in other Arab states. Jordan, was opened by Lebanon's Ambassdor to Jordan ing competitions by handicapped children since 1987 to encourage He said a technical team of

humanitarian needs, Dr. Salem Ambassador Ibrahim pre-

Amiad Ibrahim of Bahrain, Ahlam Utaibi of Saudi Arabia, Mohammad Abdoi of Qatar, Zena Yunis of Lebanon, Jumaa Rashed and Adel Saeed of the United Arab Emirates, Shima Mohammad of Egypt, Salma Mohammad of Sudan, Mohammad Bastouni of Syria, Salim Fadel of Iraq and Andali Bawaya of Jordan.

The Nazek Al Hariri Centre, established near Amman in 1984, aims at providing vocational and academic training, social and health care and recreational services to handicapped children.

al training to 215 day students and is staffed by 57 instructors. Funding for the training and the school in general is provided for by Rafik Hariri, prime minister of Lebanon, whose wife. Nazek, built the school in 1985 at

the cost of JD2 million. Dr. Salem added that the cen-The exhibition, which was tre also organises training courses for instructors in rehabilitation

The centre has organised drawchildren's activities and to draw







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Jordanian celebrations being held in New Jersey, USA, today, Jordan National Day

> under the auspices of H.E. Ambassador Adnan Abu Odeh

Permanent Representative of Jordan to the United Nations in collaboration with

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LOYALTY DINNER: Air France hosted its annual dinner on May 17 at the Amman Marriott Hotel in honor of its clients and travel agents. During the dinner, Mr. Jean Claude Rouyer (regional manager for Jordan and Iraq) delivered a speech in which he announced the operation of Boeing 747 on the Amman - Paris Wednesday flight from June 16 and the introduction of Frequence Plus, a frequent flyer scheme. On the basis of accumulated points, Frequence Plus entitles passengers to bonuses such as class upgrading, excess baggage exemption and free tickets. The Air France Group, which consists of 95 companies, is the third largest air transport group in the world and serves over 225 cities in 106 countries with some 220 aircrafts. For the year 1993, Air France Group adopted a charter under the logo "le client en tete" (the client above all), giving top priority to client satisfaction.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- Art exhibition entitled "Fragments: Weavings and Works on Paper" by Kevin A. Hluch and Margaret M. Hluch at the
- American Centre. Art exhibition by Patrice Pain at the French Cultural Centre. ☆ Armenian miniature exhibition adapted by Clara Metzhagopian at the British Council.
- ★ Exhibition of sculptures by Artist Abdul Hayy Musaliam at Baladna Art Gallery. x. Exhibition of paintings by Rafiq Al Lahham at the Royal

Cultural Centre.

LECTURE

Lecture, in Arabic, on "The Islamic-Arab Renaissance Project" by head of the Islamic Action Front (IAF) Islaq Al Farhan at the Scientific and Cultural Centre of Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation 6:30 p.m.

By Rami G. Khouri

رمن تاييز يرمية عربية سياسية مستقلة تعدر بالانجليزية عن المرسسة المسيفية الأردثية

Chairman of the Board of Directors: MAHMOUD AL KAYED

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What is happening? Nobody cares any more?

THE ISRAELI establishment is increasingly being criticised for its iron fist policies in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. On Sunday the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Cornelio Sommaruga, demanded that Israel end human rights violations in the occupied territories. "I consider that using live ammunition (against Palestimian children) is a serious problem," Sommaruga said. The president of the ICRC, an organisation famed for its humanitarian efforts worldwide and its abstention from taking side in conflicts, must have felt very much compelled by the continued killing of children to scold the Israelis and remind them that they are an occupying power violating the terms of the Geneva Conventions.

Only two days earlier, UNRWA's Commissioner General Ilter Turkmen described the situation in the occupied territories, especially in the refugee camps, as being intolerable. He reminded the Israelis and the whole world that the Israeli army has killed more people, mainly children, during the first five months of this year than it did in 1992.

Despite all this criticism, the Israeli prime minister, Yitzhak Rabin, seems to be still believing that by placing all the occupied territories under siege, killing people, detaining thousands, demolishing homes and depriving a whole population of its basic means of spinistence he would be able to break the will of the Pakstinian people. But Mr. Rabin must realise by now that he is mistaken. By doing so he only fuels the resistance of the Palestinians, strengthens the hands of peace opponents, drives even moderate Palestinians towards radicalism and puts to jeopardy the entire prospect for peace in the region.

Ry Israeli admission, the people in Gaza have lost all their purchasing power due to the Israeli siege. Yet, dilieugh Rabin's government has placed Gazans on the edge of starvation, confrontations between the "Suebab" and the Israeli occupying army are escalating, resulting in more deaths every day. This horrific situation must not be allowed to continue. The Arab World has an obligation to come to the rescue of the Palestinian people. The case of the closure of the West Bank and Gaza must be taken to the U.N. Security Courcil and an emergency fund must be established to help the people endure the hardships brought about by landle atrocities. The world powers ought to be remainded of their moral and legal obligations and desics towards the people under siege. The peace that Palesimians, Arabs and Israelis aspire to cannot be achieved while everyone turns a blind eye to the plight of the Palestinian people. Nor should Mr. Rabin confine to convince himself that by his actions in the Rank and Gaza he can impose on Palestinians his

ANABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL DUSTOUR daily dwelt Monday on the prospects for the 10th mund of Arab-Israeli peace negotiations, noting that the U.S. administration has already embarked on steps to pave the ground for the coming session. Despite the Arab parties' suspicions about the linton administration's moves and despite the Arab countrie realisation of Washington's total bias towards Israel's stand. the U.S. is embarking on fresh consultations with the Israelis and the Arabs to convene the next round of talks, said the daily. Washington has decided to despatch envoys to the region to sound out the Israeli government's position first, before moving on to the Arab side, said the daily. Of course, this tactic is bound to anger the Arab parties and to deepen doubts about the outcome of the next session, said the paper. The previous sessions, including the ninth session, were all started with similar consultations which were held mainly to please the Israelis and to help the Americans understand Israel's views so that they can adopt them, the paper pointed out. It said that the same scenario is being repeated now, but it is up to the Arab foreign ministers who are meeting in Amman early next month to decide on the next move. The paper said that the Arabs parties, are now called on to adopt a unified stand, demanding commitments in deeds rather than in words, and concrete steps that would be conducive to peace and a final settlement.

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i said Sudan's retreat from its earlier position with regard to the disputed area of Halayeb, near the border with Egypt, was a wrong step. But the retreat is bound to defuse the explosive situation and help the Egyptians and the Sudanase negotiators reach a compromise settlement, said Mahmood Rimawi. Retreat and compromise are better than going to war over a disputed area of land between the Arab states, he Sudanese step, the writer added, could compel Egypt to take a similar move and try to find a solution through peaceful means that would cater to the national rights of the two countries. The Arab countries are now contemplating the situation with interest, hoping to see reconciliation between Khartoum and Cairo and positive steps bolstering, rather than weakening, milateral ties, the writer added. The best means of defusing the terrocory ow, suggested the writer, is the transform Halayeb into a place where Cairo and Kharteem can take the first step towards indignation away from any move towards confrontation, under instig, then from foreign forces. Indeed, the dispute is of a political rather than a geographical nature, and it is hoped, said the writer, that Egypt will promptly respond favourably to the Sudanese step hartoum half way towards peace.

The View from Fourth Circle

The unequal fate of whales and Muslims

As the United States, Europe and Russia maintain a relatively gingerly attitude towards the massacres and ethnic cleansing of Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina, frustration and rage continue to build up in the Arab and Islamic World against what is increasingly perceived to be a "plot" to prevent the birth of Europe's first Islamic country. Some Islamic quarters even go further, and see the suffering of Bosnian Muslims as a prelude to an ominous fate that awaits other Muslim communities in the early years of the "new world order"

Recent meetings and statements to this effect have generated a pattern of sentiment that may not bring immediate relief to the suffering of the Bosnians, but they do point to a possible political trend in many Arab and Islamic lands that should not be shrugged off as mere expressions of frustration. We have enough evidence in recent decades to suggest that the angry statements of officials reflect a deeper and more powerful grassroots feeling that will ultimately translate into policy changes — and perhaps even to changes among Third World political leaderships that are seen by their people to have failed the test of leadership.

Very strong sentiments were forcefully expressed at last month's meetings in Karachi of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC), which groups the world's 51 Islamic countries (representing one billion people, or one-fifth of the world's population). The OIC pledged \$90 million in emergency aid to Bosnia, demanded an immediate lifting of the arms embargo against Bosnian Muslims, and called for the establishment of an international war crimes tribunal to try and punish those found guilty of "genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes". Some OIC members, including generally pro-western Egypt and Turkey, stated clearly that the resolutions could be interpreted as

Turkey, stated clearly that the resolutions could be interpreted as a call to Islamic states to break the arms embargo unilaterally. Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati told the meeting that Islamic nations needed the physical power to protect Muslim rights around the world, noting that the continued ethnic cleansing in Bosnia and "pointed international anti-Islamic propaganda indicate a well-planned strategy against Islam" on two fronts — physical aggression and cultural abuse. A specific example of this fear was given by the noted Egyptian commentator Fahmi Howeidi, who warned that the Muslims of India may be facing a fate similar to that of Bosnian Muslims. facing a fate similar to that of Bosnian Muslims.

This theme was also prominent at a recent meeting of over 700

international Muslim scholars in Cairo, which repeatedly contrasted the world's stringent and enduring anti-Iraq and anti-Libya embargoes with international lassitude in protecting Muslim Bosnians or Palestinians suffering and dying under Israeli occupation. The contrast, they said, "raises doubts about the credibility of the international community's standards" in respecting the U.N. Charter and human rights standards.

The overriding sentiment among Arabs and Muslims is that the Bosnian situation reveals the ugly face of the new world order in which tangential cultures can suffer deeply as long as northern and western interests are not really threatened.

Even countries that are deeply dependent on western protec-tion and markets, such as Saudi Arabia and Egypt, have spoken out forcefully against the Bosnia situation. The Saudi-owned Al Sharq Al Awsat has charged that Europe and Russia are involved in an international "conspiracy" to do away with the Bosnians at the end of the 20th century in the same manner that the Palestinians were disenfranchised from their national land and

rights in the middle of this century.

Noting a British (!) official's remark that Europe would never allow an Islamic state to rise in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the paper charged that the European Community's "actual goal was the continuation of the massacre of the Muslims and the disintegration of the geographical entities and pockets they had left in

Salamah Ahmad, a columnist in Cairo's semi-official Al Ahram newspaper, sarcastically contrasted the recent decision of the International Whaling Commission to set up "safe havens" on the high seas for whales threatened by extinction with the slow progress on establishing safe havens for Bosnian Muslims. It seems, he noted, that in the new world order fish have more rights than human beings, despite all the talk about human rights from the United States and Europe.

The implications of Arab/Islamic anger at the tragedy in Bosnia

threaten to generate a powerful reaction amongst Arabs. Muslims and others in the developing world who are already deeply sceptical about the true ramifications of the so-called "new world order". An editorial in Al Sharq Al Awsat earlier this month warned that Europe's "inhuman" failure to help end the massacres in Bosnia threatens the new world order with collapse and even poses a danger to "the future of the world". Calling the

Bosnia situation "the ugliest massacre since the end of World War II," the paper charged that Europe's obvious stalling tactics suggest "a hidden arrangement to give the Serbs and then the Croats the opportunity to drive out the Bosnian Muslims and clear the country of them, wiping them out on masse and

occupying their territories."

Editorialist Joseph Samaha, writing in the pan-Arab, London-based daily Al Hayat, says that allowing slices of Bosnia to be based daily Al Hayat, says that allowing slices of Bosnia to be added to Greater Serbia and Greater Croatia would leave "a small Islamic pocket, if any such pocket remains, to bear witness that the right of might is stronger than the might of right,"

This bleak situation is not totally devoid of a silver lining, however, according to Abdul Rahman Al Rasheed, editor of the Saudi weekly magazine Al Majalla, who said that Bosnia could still elicit decisive U.S.-led action to stop the carnage and restore Muslim rights in Bosnia. Muslim rights in Bosnia. He suggests that forceful corrective action led by the U.S. would help the U.S. improve its standing in an Arab and Islamic World that largely feels that recent U.S. interventions in Francis Sandia and Arab and Islamic World that largely feels that recent U.S. interventions in Kuwait, Somalia, and the Arab-Israeli peace process were either undertaken for selfish interests or were mere 'stage productions".

A decisive move in Bosnia would temper Arab/Islamic scepticism of western motives and win the United States genuine friends. just as some Arabs, especially Kuwaitis, felt "genuine love" for Washington after the war in the Gulf, he said. I say, let's hope so and let's work for this, but not hold our breath or bet on it.

Until this happens, however, the continued suffering of Bosnian Muslims will generate further anti-American and anti-European sentiments throughout the Arab and Islamic World. This is likely to fuel two trends: a deterioration in already thin western political credibility, and the possibility of eliciting political, economic and even military responses by Arab and Islamic communities that feel deeply threatened by what they perceive to be a continuing legacy of political double standards and even cultural genocide by the dominant western powers not so much a new world order, as a grim and dirty perpetuation of the violent old order in a new form, with new, largely Arab and Muslim, victims.

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A struggle for independence

IT IS reasonable to assume that the human mind, from Plato and his political society to NATO and their new political alliance, has always been active in stirring new ideas about political societies. The human spirit has constantly been troubled by the yearning for political change and new forms of government. The political face of our Earth has been and continues to be subject to change by the creation of new political societies, such as Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, and the disappearance of others, of which the USSR is the latest example, or by the fragmentation of great empires into smaller nation states and the federation or confederation of states into larger empires, alliance and other forms of political societies.

The history of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan is one resulting from that continuous change. Jordan will always be indebted, for its creation and independence to one man, the Hashemite Amir Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein. For before he occupied and liberated it in 1921, it was a mere fragment of the debris of the former Ottoman Empire. In 1918 it became part of the empire of King Faisal Ibn Al Hussein of Syria, which was destroyed by the French Empire in 1920. Between 1921-1929 Amir Abdullah developed it from a stateless no-man's-land, on the fringe of nowhere and inhabited by ungovernable tribal societies, into nationhood and an independent national state entrusted to the British mandate.

Transjordan in its first stage of development was artificially created as a result of a series of major political accidents during the implementation of the peace settlement after World War I. It was never directly occupied or administered by Great Britain, which during 1920 attempted to rule it indirectly, through local government administrations. In the extremely thin presence of only five British political officers, that system failed miserably. For it did not emanate from the consent and free will of the Arab inhabitants of the territory and it lacked the political organisation, central authority and coercive power vital for its cohesion. The various local governments, which were established on advice by the British political officers, were bereft of the elements of transforming a stateless society into a state, such as: men of light and leading, finance, technological input, essential organs for justice, power of coercion and the provision of vital services. Thus, before the occupation of Transjordan by Amir Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein in March 1921, disorder, crime, and indeed chaos prevailed.

Amir Abdullah came to Transjordan as a response to the appeal made by the majority of its Arab inhabitants, represented by their sheikhs and notables, and the Istiqlal Party of Arab nationalists who took refuge in the country from French oppression in Syria, On March 3, 1921, and in accordance with Arab and Muslim customs and traditions, Amir Abdullah was proclaimed the Amir of Transjordan by the people. That proclamation was the clearest expression of self-determination and common will. It was founded on the basis of common language, culture, history and political interests. However, to be considered a nation deserving a national state of their own, the people of Transjordan needed a government, an international personality and a recognised delimited territory.

It was clearly evident that there was some difference and more often contradiction between the British government's policy towards Transjordan and its implementation by British officials on the spot. While the government concluded an agreement with Amir Abdullah to rule Transjordan, intended and needed him to stay in the country, Zionist and pro-Zionist British officials did their best to remove him from the country and annex it to Palestine. Their main aim was to open its land for Zionist immigration and colonisation. Even after seventy two years of independent existence of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, there are covetous Zionists today who are still scheming and plotting to destroy a Kingdom which was founded 27 years before Israel was created and annex its land to "Eretz Israel" or Greater Israel. Thus a short digression may be in order bere to examine Zionist claims to Arab lands.

The name Palestine was first coined by the ancient Greek and Latin historians to describe the fertile coastal areas owned by the old Philistines. This name was extended from time to time to include the whole of Palestine as it was known during the British mandate, but never across the River Jordan to the land east of Palestine. The Jordan line which extended from the Yarmouk River to the Dead Sea and south along the Ghor (Jordan Valley) to Aqaba, gradually started to be known as a political or administrative boundary during the periods of the Moabites, Edomites, Ammonites, as well as the Assyrians, the Babylonians, the Persians, the Nabataeans, the Greeks, the Romans, the Byzantines, and the Muslim Arabs. In 640 AD, the Arabs named Palestine Jund Filistin, and Transjordan Jund Al Urdon. In fact Jund Al Urdon included some parts of Palestine. The Crusaders made no changes in the administrative boundary of the Jordan line, and during the Mamelukes' period it became a district rather than a provincial boundary. Thus throughout history, although Palestine and Jordan were under the same successive foreign occupiers, they were always separate, and Jordan was never part of Palestine.

Furthermore, on July 28, 1920, this historical fact was confirmed by Bonar Law, the British prime minister, when he stated in the House of Commons that: "The authority of the Palestine government did not extend east of the Jordan." Another assurance was given to Amir Abdullah on March 28, 1921, when Churchill, on behalf of the British government, promised him that: "Transjordan would not be included in the present administrative system of Palestine and the Zionist clauses of the mandate would not apply" to Transjordan. Even the Zionist British High Commissioner for Palestine, Sir Herbert Samuel, on behalf of the British government declared in Amman on April 18, 1921, that: "The British government welcomes the opportunity of cooperating in Transjordan with His Highness the Amir Abdullah in whose goodwill and friendship they have every confidence." On Sept. 16, In the following article, Doctor in philosophy and historian Ma'an Abu Nowar, retired army general and ex-minister, traces the social, economic, political and legal history of the creation of Transjordan between 1920 and 1929, with stress on the growth of nationalism and political awareness of the tribal communi-



Amir Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein

1922, and in response to a British demand, the Council of the League of Nations, in accordance with international law, confirmed the international personality and separate entity of Transjordan, when it passed a resolution declaring that all the Zionist clauses in the mandate for Palestine did not apply in Transjordan, and that the British government accepted full responsibility as mandatory for a separate Transjordan. On April 27, 1923, the secretary of state for foreign affairs declared: "Subject to the approval of the League of Nations, His Britanic Majesty's government will recognise the existence of an independent government in Transjordan under the rule of His Highness Amir Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein, provided such a government is constitutional and places His Britanic Majesty's government in a posi-tion to fulfill their international obligations in respect of the territory by means of an agreement to be concluded between the two governments." By 1929 the three conditions in that declaration were fulfilled with the ratification by Britain and Transjordan of the

1928 Agreement, and the approv-

al of the League of Nations,

During the early stages of its development, Transjordan was handicapped by Zionist attempts for its annexation to Palestine. From the points of views of Winston Churchill, T.E. Lawrence, Major Rupert Young and Sir Gilbert Clayton, morality and politics, as they affected Transjordan, coincided and accorded with British policy and interests. They thus did not allow British aims to be subservient to Zionist objectives in Transjordan. But all the British Zionists and pro-Zionist officials, in contrast, subordinated British policy and interests to Zionist aims, as they endeavoured by every possible means to remove Amir Abdullah from Transjordan and annex it to Palestine.

The French government wanted Britain to exercise stricter controls over Transjordan in order to prevent the Arab nationalists from raiding Syria, especially after the attempt made from Transjordan to kill the French High Commissioner in Qunaitrah. St John Philby, who replaced Abramson as British representative in Amman, made Transjordan subservient to Sandi Arabian aims and interests. He

created some of the reasons for the 'Adwan rebellion of 1922; he caused the introduction of stricter British financial control over the government of Transjordan and he went as far as wrongly accus-ing Amir Abdullah of squandering public funds, while he was the culprit who spent money from the Grant-in-Aid to entertain the High Commissioner, his family and his staff in Petra, as well as and his start in retra, as well as awarding gifts to his friends in the desert. The financial crises caused mainly by Samuel and Philby crippled Transjordan; and the first massive Wahhabi Ikhwan raid which followed nearly destroyed the infant state. Philby's behaviour in Transjordan until April 19, 1924, will remain an enigma much more entangled and far more perplexing than it sug-

The first British Labour gov-

ernment had little experience in international affairs and no experience in Arab affairs. Particularly the colonial secretary J.H. Thomas's attitude towards Transjordan showed lack of vision and simplistic approach to international relations. With Churchill and Lawrence out of the way, there was no one in the Colonial Office to stand up against Meinertshagen's Zionist schemes. John Shuckbourgh and Maj. Young were already converted to pro-Zionism, and after Sharif Hussein's abdication, they realised that the Transjordan card lost its value. Amir Abdullah and the poor people of Transjordan were now on their own. Lt. Colonel Henry Cox, who replaced Philby as British representative in 1924, was distinctly an opinionated soldier and administrator rather than a politician or diplomat. To begin with, he accepted Samuel's and Frederick Peake's ideas of removing Amir Abdullah from Transjordan, well before he knew him enough to realise his indispensability to the country, its cohesion and law and order. His mission coincided with an extremely critical situation for Amir Abdullah and the Transjordanians. For within one month (Aug. 8 to Sept. 3), the financial crisis which was created by Philby, and further aggravated by Cox, crippled Amir Abdullah's freedom of action and made the people poorer. Al Rikabi, the then Jordanian prime minister, was Cox's and Peake's protege rather than Amir Abdullah's prime minister. The sudden break out of raids from Transjordan against the French in Syria, the British government's ultimatum demanding financial control. the expulsion of certain members of Arab nationalists from Al Istiolal Party of Transjordan, British

stunning blows that could have knocked out Amir Abdullah or any man in his position. But, even in his anger, Amir Abdullah kept his cool and calm realism; instead of surrendering to his compelling emotions, he employed his prudence and political acumen; he kept his main aim of survival and the independence of Transjordan within sight and consented to the British ultimatum. With wisdom and pati-

stricter control over the Arab

Legion, the second and more

devastating Wahhabi Ikhwan in-vasion which threatened Amman,

Amir Abdullah's capital and the

arrival of British troops in Am-

man, followed by the Wahhabi

invasion against the Kingdom of

Hijaz were all successive and

ence Amir Abdullah was able to turn the political tide by strict adherence to his political friendship for Britain. The Zionists and pro-Zionist British officials who, against the interests of their own government attempted to remove him from Transjordan, failed yet again; and in the covert jousts of political causes, and in the secret combat of principles between Amir Abdullah and them. Amir Abdullah won his and Transjordan's survival. For as far as the Jordanians were concerned, Samuel, Wendham Deedes, Abramson, Philby, Cox, and Peake were foreigners (Ajaneb) who had no right to ontrol their life, while Abdullah was the descendant of the Prophet Mohammad, a member of the most noble Arab tribe, and their Amir.

While endeavouring to maintain his presence in Transjordan and immunise his newly-founded state against annexation to Palestine, Amir Abdullah did not take his political aims for granted. An expert in tribal affairs, he applied the old doctrine of ruling through the sheikhs and notables, and while he allowed his cabinet to run the administration of the country, he directly communicated with the traditional leaders of the people. He kept them informed of his wishes and aims, and convinced them that they were their own. His camp and later his palace and Diwan were visited, every day including Friday, by delegations, sheikhs, not-ables, senior officials and officers. His hospitality was remarkable, his presence was politically rewarding and his company was, intellectually entertaining. Furthermore, Amir Abdullah was extremely generous with his subvention to the sheikhs and notables who mattered most, without depriving those who were in need. He bestowed titles and ranks and controlled the appointments of directors, judges, senior civil servants and officers of the Arab Legion, through his Royal Command (Iradah Al Saniyah).
The internal reins of power were in his hands. By contrast, successive British-

representatives, with the very thin presence of British officials. not exceeding three — did not and indeed could not communicate directly with the people; their channel of communications was restricted to Amir Abdullah and certain ministers and civil service proteges. Thus, their mis sion remained ambassadorial although Henry Cox indulged in some interference. Apart from the few Jordanians who shyly and secretly crept to the British residence and to Peake's office, no Jordanians were in direct communication with them; they were nearly isolated from the people. However, in the political "ing

of-war" for financial and military control over the Arab Legicar during 1925, Amir Abdullah want not the loser when he consented to the demands made in the British ultimatum. He lost financial control over the budget, but gained the continuation of the Grant-in-Aid of about 80,000 pounds; he lost the presence of the leaders of the Istiqlal Party which he did not need, but gaine the removal of the British gen darmes from his capital, Ame which he desperately wanted; le gave the right of inspection of the

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The Amman downtown Roman amphitheatre as it looked in the 1920s

Struggle for independence

Continued from page 4

Arab Legion to a British officer of much higher rank and more experience than Peake, who, unknown to him, was plotting to remove him from Transjordan, he gave an extradition agreement to remove criminals from Transjordan, but gained immunity from extradition for political re-fugees; he abolished the Department of Tribal Affairs, but replaced it with a better system of Tribal Courts and bedouin supervision, which kept him in control of the desert tribes, he gave the right of inspection of antiquities to a British expert, but only because he had no Jordanian experts, and he needed all the help he could get in that field. All that with the assurance by the British government of his status and that of his country, as well as their commitment to defend Transjordan against internal and

The end of Samuel's mission as High Commissioner for Palestine and Transjordan also saw the end, at least during that decade, of the endeavours to annex Transjordan to Palestine for Zionist aims. Lord Plumer who succeeded him, was not pro-Zionist as far as Transjordan was concerned; he strongly opposed any control by the Palestine government over this country. Indeed, he considered its annexation to Palestine totally unjust and fraught with danger. Cox soon realised that without Amir Abdullah's goodwill and cooperation he could not succeed in his mission, nor could he implement his government's policy without the presence of British troops, which they did not wish to employ at the strength needed for the control of the whole country. The British government could not have afforded the high expense of at least one brigade of the British army in Transfordan at that time. Thus Cox saw no alternative to Amir Abdullah and consented to an about-face in his attitude to-

Lord Plumer dealt a severe blow to the development of the Arab Legion into a military force capable of defending the country against internal and external aggression during 1926. With full agreement from Cox and Peake. and against strong protest by Amir Abdullah, he reduced the strength of the Arab Legion from 1,472 officers and men to 855. He deprived it of its military character and reduced it to a police force responsible for crime prevention and detection and prison guard duties. Peake, who did not lift a finger to defend his command and was in fact in favour of replacing the reduced strength by an imperial unit (the Transjordan Frontier Force, TJFF), showed clearly how disloyal he was to the future of the Arab Legion, or the men under his command. The vast majority of the TJFF were not Jordanians. Those 617 disbanded men, whose families suffered the loss of their income,

were Jordanians. It was not only the Arab Legion, the four aeroplanes, and four armoured cars, as well as the TJFF, which maintained law and order in Transjordan. The Arab Legion was very thinly deployed throughout the country and could not provide more than 200 men for a major operation; the aeroplanes and armoured cars were blind at night and could only fight in daylight, and apart from their small number, the armoured cars had no access to the mountains from Umm Qais to Petra. The TJFF was a newly established and

quasi mercenary force with no heart to fight a Jordanian rebellion, taking into account the skill and courage with which they fought the Wahhabi Ikhwan. Furthermore, in the absence of Amir Abdullah, a popular rebel-lion against the British Mandate would have raised no less than 10,000 armed men from the Balqa tribes and Bani Sakhr, not to mention, at least 20,000 from the rest of the country. It was loyalty and obedience to Amir Abdullah and his ability to influence the tribes of Transjordan, both bedouin and (non-bedonin) Hadar. rather than the physical power of the Arab Legion, which mainfamued law and order in the country.

" Needless to say that Cox and Peake would not have "had" a chance to survive without either Amir Abdullah's compelling presence and prestige or the presence of a large British military force. Peake's claim that the loyalty of the Arab Legion was to him, without Amir Abdullah's influence, was a myth, considering that he was himself arrested by Bani Sakhr's Sheikh Mithgal Al Fayiz who kept him in a barley store for 48 hours. Moreover, the British government needed Amir Abdullab as long as they had the slightest hope of an agreement with his father, King Hussein of the Hijaz. Thus marginal control through him was not only wise but necessary. However, with the abdication of King Hussein, and later his eldest son King Ali. Amir Abdullah's political power was diminished in Arab affairs and all that remained for him was his own prestige in Transjordan

and what moral support he could get from his brother King Faisal By the end of 1926, the British

Mandate's marginal and indirect control, with financial assistance. was superseded by direct political, financial and military control, with a substantial reduction in the Grand-in-Aid. Thus Amir Abdullah's political power was limited and a British colonial oligarchy. fully supported by Palestinian Arab officials seconded from the government of Palestine, replaced the Syrian oligarchy. The Jordanians had to jostle for the very few jobs in the Arab Legion and the civil service of their own country. With the exception of the Department of Education, every other department was headed by a Palestinian or British official. The people of Transjordan were incensed by their deprivation of the benefits of their government in which they had no political share. If the unjust proportionality unemployment was one of the causes of the 'Adwan rebellion of 1922, there was no proportionality whatsoever in

An agricultural and pastoral country. Transjordan was entirely dependent on variable rainfall. Thus the farmers, which constituted the majority of the people, had no predictable fortunes. In good years (Sanawat Al Ghilal), their share of support and comfort was ample, with some reserve for their capital. In had years (Sanawat Al Mahl), they ate their capital and horrowed from moneylenders to survive. Meanwhile, considering the contemporary levels of income, the rich merchants and middlemen, government civil servants, officers and soldiers etc. were not sisted. With the Wahhabis' ineffected by bad years; their share creased threat to the peace of the of the economy was constant and invariable. Furthermore, two devaluations of the rate of exchange the Bani Shakhr tribe and the

losses on the people and the introduction of the Pulestine pound in 1927 hit them hard for the third time within three years. Thus, the wide gap of economic and political power between the poor indigenous people, who made their living from the land, and the Syrian and Palestinian immigrants who occupied the vast majority of government posts, and consequently had nearly full control over the economy, became wider, as the latter became richer and the former became poorer. 1924 was a lean year, 1925 was not good enough to compensate for the losses of 1924 and early in 1936 hot winds destroved more than 35 per cent of

the crops. If all that did not completely destabilise the economic fortunes of the Jordanians, the earthquake which shook the whole country on July 11, 1927, for 30 seconds did. In that earthquake, 60 peopie were killed, and 99 others were injured; 472 houses colseriously damaged. However, instead of helping the Jordanians with an increase in the Grant-in-Aid. Cox recommended to the British government its reduction from 66,000 to 45,000. Needless to say that the deficit had to be made up from increased and more efficiently collected taxa-

The negotiations for the Treaty and Organic Law were conducted during a critical year for Amir Abdullah. His father, King Hussein, was in exile in Cyprus, which constantly reminded him that he too could be exiled. His cabinet was composed of men who toed Cox's line; his senior civil servants were seconded from the Palestine government and although they payed lip service to him, their loyalty was to their British employers. His Arab Legion, though loyal to him, was reduced to a small constabulary very thinly deployed throughout the country. The TJFF stood by prepared and ready for action against him if he attempted to create serious trouble for the British. The Syrian revolt of 1925, which he secretly supported, was completely crushed by the French Army and Air Force, which reminded him of the same fate if he contemplated a Jordanian rebellion. He was under severe personal financial pressure, not only due to his perpetual generosity, but also because of his increased liability owing to the presence of his family in Amman; his debts were increased to the extent that his loyal wife had to sell her jewelry make ends meet.

Moreover, Amir Abdullah. could not ignore the possibility that without him Transjordan would eventually be absorbed by Palestine and included in the Balfour Declaration. For Britain, the strongest power on earth then which excluded Transjordan from the Zionist clauses of the mandate for Palestine, could have imposed its reinclusion; and the fact that all but one department were headed by Palestinian officials created much suspicion that the absorption would have been an easy alternative for the Amir's rule, after his father's abdication.

Thus, the fear of Zionist immigration and colonisation perdesert, which restarted with their of the Ottoman lira inflicted great killing of their Sheikh Hatmal Al

Zabin, the pressure on Amir Abdullah became nearly impossible to overcome. It was under those political and personal situations that the treaty between Great Britain and Transjordan of Feb. 20, 1928, was signed, and the Organic Law of April 19. 1928, was promulgated.

Perhaps one of the main reasons, among many, for the intense criticism of the Treaty, which followed immediately after its publication, was the malformed, and consequently the vague. Arabic translation which amplified the limitations placed upon the Amir's and Transjordan's sovereignty; it defaced the real intentions of raising military. forces in Transjordan, it highlighted the negative nature of the political and financial relations between the two countries and it obscured the real facts of British financial assistance. Lord Plumer, who signed the original Aracopy, retired in July 1928, and the corrected Arabic translation was signed by him, in his retirement, bereft of jurisdiction. nowever, the treaty contained many political advantages and lapsed and 769 others were, only few advantages to the Amir

> "The British government especially recognised Transjordan's independent government and the Amir as its head of state. The

Treaty provided that the powers of legislation and administration were transferred from the British government to His Highness the Amir."

treaties.

British government especially pendent government and the Amir as its head of state. The were transferred from the British government to His Highness the Amir, that the British government shall not place obstacles in the way of association of Transjordan for customs or other purposes with neighbouring Arab states, which recognised the right of Transjordan to conclude international treaties, that the British government was committed to assist Transjordan for the ordinary expenses of government and the Arab Legion, in so far and for such time as revenues of Transjordan were insufficient and that the Treaty shall be revised from time to time. In several articles there was an implied commitment by the British government to defend Transfordan.

By accepting the Treaty, Amir Abdullah had further immunised politically and legally Transjordan against Zionist immigration and colonisation and removed even the slightest doubt regarding the absorption of Transjordan by Palestine. For nowhere in the Treaty was there the slightest hint of that danger. On the contrary, Article 18 provided: "No territory in Transjordan shall be ceded or leased or in any way placed under the control of any foreign power." Moreover, Article 3 provided that: "No official of other than Transjordan nationality shall be appointed in Transiordan," which precluded Palestine government officials from appointments in the govern-

ment of Transjordan. Bearing in mind Transfordan's internal and external situation, and the political, economic, and military threats it was facing during that critical period of its new creation, the disadvantages were few, and far less important than

Among the advantages, the confirms the independence of Transjordan and shows that it recognised Transjordan's inde-fulfilled, more or less, the principles of constitutional government, considering the prevailing Treaty provided that the powers stage of political development of legislation and administration and the administrative capabilities of the people. The rights of the people were well provided for, the sovereignty of the head of state, his immunities, as well as the limits of his power and authority were clearly described. legislative power was vested in the Legislative Council with the Amir, the judiciary were independent and the courts were free from interference, the separation of powers, though faintly delimited, was conspicuous and although government responsibility and accountability was vague-Legislative Council to prevent the promulgation of laws and ordinances not approved by them was evident. It is ironic to think that Transjordan's pluralism under the British Mandate in 1928, was far more advanced than the political systems of Eastern Europe

in 1988, i.e., sixty years later. However, certain limitations which were provided for the Treaty were more or less implied in the Organic Law. This was due to the fact that the British authors of both the Treaty and Organic Law were influenced by the principles of English Law that stated: international law is part of the law of the land."; but even these implied limitations did not interfere in the powers of the Legislative Council, although from a political point of view they limited the freedom of the Amir and the Executive. Furthermore, the British government had the power to accede when necessary. on behalf of Transfordan, to any commercial or extradition treaty or general convention to which it was party for Great Britain and Northern Ireland; but the power of ratification remained vested in the Amir with the Executive and

the survival of the country. Even the Legislative Council. There was no harm done in that provi-Treaty, with emphasis on the sion, for it became evident later, meaning of words and sentences; that the treaties concerned were shows clearly that limitations in beneficial to Transjordan. They included treaties such as the Postal Union, Prevention of Slavery etc.; and if they were good diction or authority over Transenough for Britain to accept them, they were good enough for Transjordan. Between the two wars, the

emergence of the new Arab nation states of Egypt, Lebanon. Syria, Iraq and Transjordan, and the establishment of constitutional governments in these countries, gave the Arabs some experience in a limited form of pluralism, either under mandate or bound by treaties indirectly limiting their sovereignty and independence. Britain and France, each in their own sphere of influence or control, negotiated with moderate Arab nationalists the framing of these countries' constitutions, which stopped at various points short of containing complete fundamental principles of pluralism in terms of constitutional law, the rights of the people and individual citizens, government responsibility and accountability, separation of powers, and full independence of

the judiciary. Not only was there a difference between the attitudes of the mandatory powers towards the countries in their trust, but each power differentiated between the countries in her trust. There was no doubt that Britain and France were guided more by their national interests and far less by the principles of the Covenant of the League of Nations, or the spirit of "the trust of civilisation" it embodied. While Britain was more liberal in its attitude towards Egypt, Iraq and Transfordan, France attempted to directly control Syria and Lebanon; and while the unjust Zionist policy dictated Britain's attitude towards Palestine, there was no moral or political justification for the differentiation it made between Egypt, Iraq and Transjor-dan, on the one hand, and between Transjordan and Palestine on the other. In the words of Lord Plumer: "and yet backward as they are (the Transjordanians) in all these matters, they have been accorded a degree of political autonomy and self-government far more advanced than their neighbours in Palestine will attain for some years.

During that period, with the exception of Palestine, elections were held, parliaments were established, national governments were formed, and the judiciary became the pride of these countries, particularly in civil, criminal, and Sharia affairs, More than a hundred newspapers, magazines, and periodicals flourished with some degree of freedom. Many political parties emerged. Some social and economic progress was achieved. Education was the main thrust for development as it spread from the main cities to the rural areas. Trade was reactivated after the peace settlement. Small industries were created. Roads and transport systems were improved. Municipal services were extended to new areas and such services as health, public works, post and telegraph, land registries, banking were introduced. The peoples of these countries were on their way to modernity and pluralism.

Throughout that period of development, the traditional and moderate Arab nationalists who were the scions of the sheikhs and notables and their allies (merchants, lawyers, doctors, officers, senior civil servants and landed gentry) reaped the main benefit of modernisation. The vast majority of the people (small farmers, workers, junior civil servants and soldiers) gained very little if any. On the contrary. higher inflation and taxation, and the losses in the value of the Ottoman lira by the introduction of the English pound, the French franc and the new Egyptian pound made them poorer, while the former became richer. While capital cities flourished, small towns and villages stood still in their poverty. However, the spread of education and political awareness from the cities to the countryside brought about an economic and social awakening: grievances became transparent. discontent became vibrant and political agitation followed, not only against the moderate nationalists, but mainly against

tral government and district administrations, gave the people little benefits. For they suffered the hurden of the highly increased cost of government since its creation in 1921, which made them much poorer. The growing power of authority and coercion. the determined enforcement of law and order, and consequently the strict collection of the much increased tax, which spread from the capital Amman to the countryside, made the people much more governed by central departments and local administrations. Before 1920, the highest authority was far away in Istanbul, but in 1929, it was there amongst them down to the village mukhtar and policeman. This process created a new set of administrative. social, economical, and political activities. The people who were accustomed to very little government before 1920, and no government during that year, reacted gradually to the new order with a growing yearning for political power and self-government. The Kurah incident, the Adwan rebellion, the aborted National Party. the various delegations, the National Pact, the opposition against the 1928 Treaty, the Karak petition to the League of Nation, the aborted boycott against the elections and the opposition group in the Legisla-tive Council were clear expressions of that yearning for political change Ten years of rapid develop-

ment of Transjordan, which saw it change from stateless tribal societies with no cohesion to a national state under the British Mandate, were not enough to transform the newly-born political groups into organised political institutions. The sheikhs, the notables and the leaders of various political groups were not able to transform the popular sympathy they enjoyed among the people into effective and permanent political organisations. Thus tribalism remained vibrant and compelling within the context of an infant national feeling. On the other hand, and in spite of the support given the Cox and Peake to the government to hold elections, and later to approve the Treaty by the Legislative Council, they were not able to achieve either until the Amir intervened and persuaded the opposition to agree. Such became the Amir's power and influence in Transjordan that nothing could be done without his influence. Needless to say that he was prevented from acting with full freedom because of the financial limitations imposed upon him and Transjor-

Although the delay in concluding the Treaty and promulgating the Organic Law, as well as in establishing a constitutional gov-

ernment and a Legislative Council, was not intended in its causes and effects to create a Transjordanian identity, it was of major importance for it allowed enough time for the right beginning and development of that identity. By 1929, and in spite of the ties of religion, language, culture, historical experience and origin which bound the Arabs of Britain and France. Meanwhile, the creation of the separate entity of Transjordan, and the development of its cen-

Transjordan with their immediate Arab neighbours, a distinct Jordanian feeling of togetherness emerged. This feeling was created in the hearts and minds of Transfordan's various tribal communities after nine years of separate existence under the Amir's rule, with a central government, one set of laws, one flag, one delimited territory, shared com-mon advantages, disadvantages, interests, fears and hopes. Their common fear of Zionism goaded them to erect a mental barrier against the British Palestine government, and the threat of their annexation to Palestine evoked a sense of defensive nationalism against the British Mandate. heir fears for the Arabs of Palestine against Zionism, and for the Arabs of Syria against French oppression, especially after the cruelty with which France crushed the Syrian revolt of 1925. created an emotion of Transjordan protective nationalism. Their fear of Wahhabi raids, which continued to threaten their lives and future, enhanced a common tribal feeling of "us and them." Thus, in their detensive one-

ness of response to the needs of that period and the general situation, whatever feelings they had for Arab nationalism, they withdrew from the wider Arab question of independence and unity into the local and immediate question of survival, freedom and independence for Transjordan In their fears, the imposed official boundaries which they had resented, had now become the psychological boundaries between them and the abstract notions of the neighbouring Arab countries. Thus within the context of a larger Arab identity, an infant, local and emotional sense of common Transjordanian identity began to develop. This was termed later al wattaniyah al qutriya'h or state nationalism. The creation of the new Arab

national states in the Arab provinces of the dismantled Ottoman Empire initiated the stage of local rather than Pan-Arab nationalism, i.e. al wattaniyah al quttriyah, By 1928, the Kingdom of Iraq was well established; the Lebanese people accepted a Chamber of Deputies and the Constitution of May 1926; the Syrians accepted a Chamber of Deputies with a nationalist majority in June 1928; the Seventh Palestine Arab Congress held in Jerusalem on June 20, 1928, demanded a Palestinian parliamentary government in Palestine; the Transjordamans were more concerned with their own survival and endeavouring to achieve their own constitutional government. Arab unity seemed to have been shelved for some time to come. It is still gathering the dust of history. On this day, May 25, 1993.

seventy two years later, we Jordanians must remember the struggle of our fathers and grandfathers to achieve freedom and independence. Today we have the strongest cause and effect of our identity as Arabs and Jordanians. under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein Ibn Talal: Freedom and liberty, democracy, elected Parliament, government responsibility and accountability, separation of powers, independence of the judiciary, political pluralism, and human rights. Let us do well with them.



The Bani Sakher tribesmen who joined the Kaf garrison

a literal interpretation of the

favour of the British government

stopped short of allowing it juris-

jordanian subjects and govern-

ment institutions. Indeed the

limitations were of consultative

and advisory nature, rather than

authoritarian, with one excep-

tion: Article 4 which provided

that the Amir agreed to adopt

laws which allow the British gov-

ernment to discharge its interna-

from a British point of view, the

Treaty was a typical engagement

of British policy between the

world wars in the Middle Fast

which provided for what Kirk

described as: "a gradual yielding

up, by treaties negotiated with

the moderate national forces, of

such attributes of power as were

not vital to Britain's interests.

and at the same time in attemp-

ting to entrench herself in those

vital positions by means of safe-

An article by article examina-

tion of the Organic Law of 1928,

tional responsibilities. However,

GATT chief wags finger at Washington over trade

GENEVA (R) — GATT chief Arthur Dunkel took aim at the United States Monday, saying strong-arm tactics by big countries to impose policies on others could endanger the world trading

Addressing the Pacific Basin Economic Council in the South Korean capital Seoul, he said that unless the Uruguay Round of talks on trade liberalisation were wrapped up this year they might never be completed.

A text of his speech was made available in Geneva.

"We see for example attempts to impose domestic environmental or labour standards on other countries through trade measures, and attempts to open markets through bilateral pressure rather than in multilateral negotiation," Mr. Dunkel said.

"This bilateralism is a threat to open regional arrangements as much as it is to the open multilateral system." he declared.

Mr. Dunkel said he was a disturbed by "a new flirtation with protectionism in some of the world's leading economies" and a questioning of the value of an open trading system.

This was especially alarming, the former Swiss diplomat said, because hopes for a modest recovery in the world economy "hinge on the prospects for growth in trade.

Mr. Dunkel, 60, steps down on June 30 after 10 years in the post of director general of the Geneva-based General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) which acts as the world

President Yoweri Museveni laun-

ches a campaign Tuesday to woo

foreign investment for a country

Winston Churchill once called the

pearl of Africa but whose name is

Uganda's recovery from the dark

days of ousted presidents Idi

Amin and Milton Obote when he

fires the opening shots in the

charm offensive at a one-day

Private investors in Uganda

will tell the Confederation of

British Industry (CBI), an em-

ployers group, how they have

fared since putting money into a

country rich with natural re-

sources but ruined by 20 years of

Finance and Economic Plan-

ning Minister Josh Mayanja-

Nkangi told Reuters in an inter-

view before flying to London the

government considers foreign in-

vestment to be critical to Ugan-

Mr. Museveni will boast of

synonymous with ruin.

arrived at the weekend.

civil unrest.



trade watchdog and forum for

trade negotiations. He had steered the Uruguay Round - which involves more than 100 countries in an effort, to ease traditional trade in goods and extend GATT rules to services, textiles and intellectual

property — since its launch in

Due to end in December 1990, the round first stalled on differences between the United States and the European Community (EC) over farm subsidies. This year confusion over trade policy in the new U.S. administration

has blocked movement. As effective arbiter in the round, whose main guiding body he chairs, Mr. Dunkel has avoided criticising any one party and in his Seoul speech he sug-gested the EC, Japan and South Korea should all be ready for compromise.

His main criticism was clearly

KAMPALA (R) — Uganda's technology, both of which are in spare for raising living standards.

(potential foreign investors),

look at this country and its natur-

la resources if you want to come

and exploit them, then please do

so," Mr. Mayanja-Nkangi said.

to power in 1986, Mr. Museveni

worked out a reform programme

with the International Monetary

Fund and won Western approval

way back from rock-bottom de-

spite world coffee price lows

which have cost Uganda hun-

dreds of millions of dollars from

IMF figures this month put the expected 1992/93 gross domestic

product (GDP) growth rate at 5.4

per cent, up from 3.4 per cent in

and IMF figures show the annual

rate of inflation — well above 200

per cent at the end of the 1980s -

The rate of exchange is stable

its only major export.

the previous year.

The economy has clawed its

One year after fighting his way

We are going to say to them

short supply in Uganda.

the Democrat-controlled U.S. Congress which argue for tough tactics to achieve Washington's trade objectives.

Mr. Dunkel said Mr. Clinton's request to Congress for renewed negotiating authority in the round until Dec. 15 was encouraging and urged leaders of the top seven industrial powers meeting in Tokyo in July to work for that

In a clear sign that he was far from convinced it could be met, he warned that "all of the old protectionist interests are still out there Waiting for their chance at a comeback and all too happy to borrow some respectable

"Furthermore, some of the politicians and officials who should be fighting for the open trading system that has made their societies more prosperous and more secure do not, because of the seductiveness of ideas of 'level playing fields', 'fair trade' or 'managed trade'."

All three terms are widely used by Clinton trade officials and

The GATT chief, expected to be replaced by former senior EC official Peter Sutherland of Ireland, argued that his draft final act for the round - presented in Dec. 1991 - could not undergo large-scale changes.

Since January this year, signals from Washington have suggested the new administration wants substantial alterations to the text largely accepted by most other

President Bill Clin- states and groupings in the round. Uganda launches charm offensive to woo investment

One civil servant, carning an

average salary among educated

government officials of 28,000

Ugandan shillings (about \$28) per

month, said: "Don't let them say

we are living in paradise. In fact.

Discontent focusses on the gov-

ernment's privatisation program-

me:- which parliament voted to

halt in March - with charges that

the government is selling public

assets to foreginers at bargain-

But the government is deter-

mined to open up in order to

move on. Investors are lured by

incentives including tax breaks,

import duty exemptions and pro-

Officials at the Uganda Invest-

ment Authority (UIA), set up in

July 1991 to provide a one-stop

shop for intending investors, are

doubts that foreigners are in-

terested is to point to the fi-

gures," says Arnold Lessard of the UIA. They show that at the

end of April, 501 companies had

been licensed since July 1991,

marking total investment pledges of \$900 million.

"My answer to anyone who

repatriation faci. "ies.

confident of their success.

this is hell on earth."

basement prices.

Unions are vociferously opposed to job losses without alternative employment being offered. They are backed by most opposition parties in parliament.

Many senior Congress Party

leaders are also opposed to layoffs, fearing it could cost the party heavily in votes during elec-The World Bank and Interna-

tional Monetary Fund (IMF) have lent India nearly \$4 billion condition is to slim down the public sector workforce.

Tanzania to use natural

gas to produce electricity

DAR ES SALAAM (R) - Two Canadian firms will take part in a

\$300 million project to use natural gas to produce electricity for Dar

Es Salaam, state-owned Tanzania Electricity Supply Corporation

(TANESCO) has said. The gas will be piped from Songosongo, 220

kilometres south of the capital to generate 110 megawatts of

The gas deposits at Songosongo were discovered 20 years ago, but have remained untapped because of the high cost of exploiting them. TANESCO said the Canadian firms, Ocelot and Trans-Canada

Pipelines, would cooperate with the state-owned Tanzania Petroleum

Development Corporation. Ocelot Vice-President Donald Macphail

told reporters a 30 cm pipeline would be laid from the offshore site at

China disputes IMF rerating of its economy

PEKING (R) - China, trying to use its current production boom China," a foreign ministry to make up for decades of socialist stagnation, disputed Monday an International Monetary Fund (IMF) rerating that said it was already an economic superpower.

The IMF has come up with a ranking of the world's economies based on a new way of calculating output that boosts China's standing to third in the world - right behind the United States and Japan.

For China's leaders, still trying to push their people to further feats of economic growth, the new "superpower" status clearly does not sit easily

staff from its bloated state sector.

a critical element in its economic

reform programme, Labour

tackle the problem of excess

workers in our public sector,

these units will continue to be

white elephants," he told Reuters

He said that the process of

laying off workers had begun in

major loss-making state-run firms

such as the National Textile Cor-

poration (NTC), Coal India and

hard decision but one that has to

be taken," he said in an interview.

Shedding workers in the public

sector, where trade unions are

strongest, is the most politically

sensitive part of reforms begun

nearly two years ago aimed at

switching from a state-dominated

economy to a market-oriented

"Throwing out workers is a

pharmaceutical companies.

at the weekend.

"We realise that unless we

Minister Purno Sangma said.

spokesman said by telephone. pointing out that China remained a developing country with a population of more than 1.1 bil-

He said that in terms of production and income per person, China had a long way to go to catch up even with what he called "medium-developed countries."

The numbers game is important - if the new ranking becomes generally accepted, China may lose out on some of the concessionary loans, special grants and other help it has relied on to build es not sit easily.

"The report of IMF has over- that helped push economic

growth up 12.8 per cent last year.
The new method of calculation no longer converts output to U.S. dollar values at market exchange rates. Instead, it looks at the comparative purchasing power of currencies to try to get a more realistic view of value.

Under the new system, China's economy is now four times larger than previously calculated, making it third in the world instead of

Other developing countries such as India and Indonesia have had similar, dramatic reratings.

The political implications of the new data are that the world's traditional economic leaders are going to have to look at countries

like China in a new way. That change has already

"Unless something very unfortunate... happens in the near future, China in economic terms is going to be a very, very major player," New York Federal Reserve President Gerald Corrigan told the Foreign Policy Association recently.

Westerners for decades have looked at China's one billion potential consumers as a huge, market, but now they are starting to see them as competitors as

In the United States, for example, officials are very concerned

about the size of the trade deficit being run up with China.

The imbalance ballooned to \$18.3 billion last year from \$12.7 billion in 1991, and it is now Washington's second biggest trade headache after Japan.

The deficit is continuing to grow even bigger this year. For Chinese leaders, the 1.1 billion people jammed into over-crowded cities and swarming over narrow belts of arable land are

more a liability than a strength. Many economists say that it is obvious that the world's most populous nation would have to have one of the world's largest economies just to supply people's basic needs.

India shedding France makes 7th excess workers interest from state sector NEW DELHI (R) — India has quietly begun shedding excess "We are tackling sick units

which have the largest numbers first," Mr. Sangma said. PARIS (R) — The Bank of France, in a bid to revitalise the The NTC, one of the biggest state-run corporations, has been a chronic loss-maker for several years. Mr. Sangma said it had 70,000 surplus workers.

The government is raising resources from various sources, including the World Bank, for rehabilitation packages for the

"We are not going to throw out workers to the streets. We are giving them attractive voluntary retirement benefits and trying to ensure that workers' skills are upgraded and put to more productive use in other sectors," Mr. Sangma said.

He said, for instance, that Coal India had set aside \$500 million to finance voluntary retirement and rehabilitation schemes. Some of it this has been borrowed from international agencies under bilateral agreements, Mr. Sangma

Coal India has nearly 40,000 women on its payroll, many of them loading coal by hand on to railway wagons. Some of the women who have taken volutary retirement have been provided with sewing machines and a work-

These women get bulk orders to provide uniform for schools and hospitals run by Coal India. Mr. Sangma said that other ate-run corporations were working out their own packages for retrenched workers.

rate cut

country's stagnant economy, cut interest rates Monday for the seventh time since the new conservative government took power in late March.

The central bank said it was cutting its intervention rate, which sets the floor for wholesale money market rates, to 7,50 per cent from 7.75 per cent. It also lowered its five-to-10-day rate, which acts as an interest rate ceiling, by a quarter-point to 8.50 per cent.

Successive quarter-point cuts in the intervention rate since April 13 have been possible because of confidence shown by international investors in the policies of Prime Minister Edouard Balladur's centre-right coalition, which won a landslide victory in March elections.

France has also been helped by interest rate cuts by the Bundesbank, Germany's central bank. which broadly determines the level of rates for all members of the European Monetary System.

The timing of the latest move, which boosted share prices by 0.8 per cent on the Paris Bourse. surprised some economists, who said market rates had fallen only slightly since the last cut on May

Credit Lyonnais economist Philippe Brossard, speaking before the cuts were announced said a reduction could signal monetary authorities were no longer willing to await declines in market rates and wanted to force

The business daily La Tribune Desfosses reported Monday that Mr. Balladur, increasingly worried by France's economic slowdown, is planning to float a spe-cial government bond to fund a recovery programme.

It gave no source for the report but said the bond would be used to finance additional public spending on infrastructure.

French economic growth has fallen, while high public budget deficits have been aggravated by dwindling tax revenues.

Commissioner says EC jobless curve won't turn until 95/96 COPENHAGEN (R) — The was critical of the idea that :

Commissioner Henning Christophersen said Monday.

"Even if we will see a conbinued fall in EC interest rates, industry will probably focus on consolidation, meaning that we do not expect the unemployment curve to turn until 1995 or 1996," Mr. Christophersen said in a

He said the EC's executive commission expected zero or below zero overall growth in the Community in 1993, with hopes for positive growth in 1994.

"But it is not yet possible to see any clear signs that we are heading towards positive growth in 1994," Mr. Christophersen said.

European Community (EC) has little hope of reversing rising until the Community was the right way employment — currently over 17 to spur growth and create jobs. million people and rising — until "In countries like Britain and million people and rising — until 1995 or 1996, Economic Affairs Italy there is no room for a further easing of fiscal policy," he said.

Mr. Christophersen said the 12-nation Community expected short-term German interest rates to fall further this year by between 1.5 and two per cent.

"I believe we will see a general further decline in short rates in Europe in 1993. The only uncertainty is over the pace of the fall."

The EC has announced a 35 billion European Currency Unit (\$42 billion) plan to boost faitering economic growth and reverse the rise in unemployment which is seen as one of the bloc's biggest Mr. Christophersen, a Dane, problems.

HOROSCOPE FORECAST FOR TUESDAY MAY 25, 1993

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This isn't a day to be extravagant or to take any chances where your assets or your good name are concerned. keep harmonious and refuse the temptation to get involved in all sorts of arguments and disagree.

Now you have a day when most io get their way i too much of a hurry so yourself keep poised and don't be rushed into precipitious action. TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You are too impatient to make

some change that will not to your best interest be unless you do slow down, get all the facts and take it at a measured pace.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Your attachment and you have a plan to get things you desire but it is advisable you take all factors into greater consideration or later troubles follow.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Instead of that insistent feeling you have to be tough with a partner, approach with your views in a cheerful and charming manner and it works out well.

LEO: (July 22 August 21) You need to add more charm to the surroundings where your greatest amount of activity takes place. then it will be easier for you to produce good results.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Use that energy now generated to in various ways let mate and other compatible persons be more aware of your devotion to them in special ways.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) This is a day when you are with your family to make sure that you both cheer them up and keep yourself in an amlable frame of mind for maintaining harmonious ARTES: (March 21 to April 19)

ORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) A good day to make sure you compliment or otherwise give special attention and encouragement to those who are your daily allies to prevent estrainment.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Look for the ways and means to do those things which will make whatever you own more valuable às well as more attractive in appearance to others.

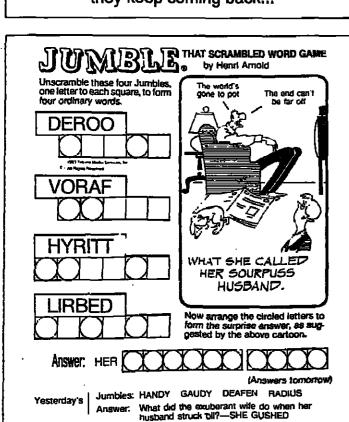
CAPRICORN: (December 12 to January 20) Your day to visit the beauty salon or barber shop that make you present the best possible appearance and add vitality to your physical wellbeing.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Look at your surroundings and see what will make them more attractive so you feel more comfortable and can have greater operative skill.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You would be wise to let good friends be more aware that you like them and enjoy their presence so do whatever will accomplish this

da's economic recovery. at a low of three per cent to June "Without foreigners, it is diffi-1993. cult to see what progress can be The figures make good reading made," he said. for economists but the govern-The government is looking to the outside world for capital and ment complains that its austerity programme means it has little to THE BETTER HALF, **By Harris** DAYMEN DUE

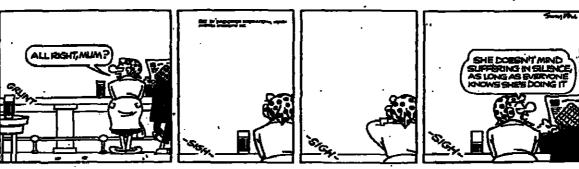
"It's like a Stephen King plot — no matter how often we pay them, they keep coming back!!!"



Peanuts

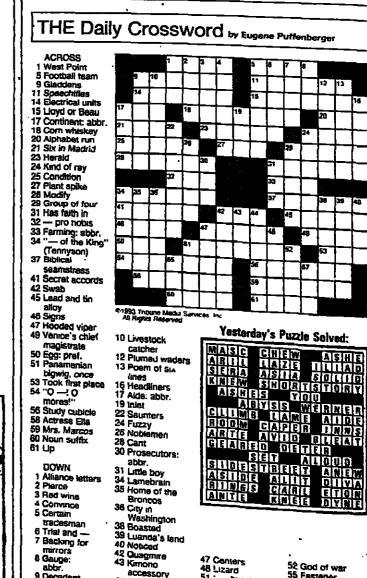


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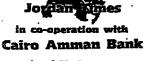
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U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Close Data 21/5/93	Tokyo CŁOSE Date 24/5/93
Starting Pound*	1.5430	1.5348 .
Deutsche Mark	1.6255	1.6341
Swiss Franc	1.4681	1.4733
French Franc	5.4730	5.5093**
Japanese Yen	110.30	110.58
European Curreny Unit	1.2050 -	1.1975**
USD Per STC		•

::rocurrency interest Rates		Date: 24/5/1993			
Ситтевсу	1 MTH	3 MTHS			
U.S. Dollar	3.12	3.18	3.31	3.68	
Sterling Pound	5.75	5.81	6.06	5.87	
Dentsche Mark	7.62	7.31	7.00	6.56	
Swiss Franc	5.02	5.00	4.81	4.56	
Freach Franc	7.68	7.35	7.00	6.62	
Japanese Yen	3.18	3.18	3.25	3.31	
European Currency Unit	7.93	7.50	7.31	7.00	

Control Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate B

	•	24/3/1773	
Currency .	Bid -	Offer	
U.S. Dollar	0.6860	0.6880	
Sterling Pound	1.0572	1.0625	
Deutsche Mark	0.4212	0.4233	
Swiss Franc	0.4665	0.4688	
French Franc	0.1252	0.1258	
Japanese Yen*	0.6201	0.6232	
Dutch Guilder	0.3761	0.3780	
Swedish Krona	0.0940	0.0945	
Palian Lira*	0.0463	0.0465	
Belgian Franc	0.02050	0.020 6 0	

Other Currencies Date: 24/5/1993 Offer 1.7970 Bahraini Dinas 1.8300 Lebanese Lira' 0.03650 0.04058 Sendi Riyal 0.1826 0.1838 Kuwaiti Dinar 2.2300 2.2800 Qatari Riyal 0.1858 0.1870 Egyptian Pound 0.1950 0.2100 1.7850 1.7450 Omani Riyal 0.1870 UAE Dirkam 0.1858 Greek Dracisma* 0.3125 0.3425 1.4360

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) - Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Monday.

U.S. \$1.00 costs

One sterling

1.2643/48 1.6390/400 1.8350/60 1.4740/50 33.66/70 5.5160/210 1485/1489 110.70/75 7.3160/260 6.9000/100 6.3575/675 \$1.5215/25 One ounce of gold \$380.25/380.75

Canadian dollar Deutschemarks Dutch guilders Swiss francs Belgian francs French francs Italian lire Japanese yen Swedish crowns Norwegian crowns Danish crowns

Consumer research Media research & Advertising Export & Market development. Jordanian Marketing Research Bureau Tel. 691906 Fax: 602419

Carbon tax seen depressing | UAE approves rules demand for Gulf oil by 20% for bank mergers

proposed European Community (EC) carbon tax is expecte to depress demand for Gulf oil by 20 per cent when it reaches its maximum limit by the year 2000 and cut earnings by \$8 billion.

The forecast was contained in a study by the Cairo-based Arab Economic Unity Council (AEUC), the latest in a series of scenarios about the effects of the proposed EC tax on the oildependent economies in the

The AEUC, which groups the economy ministers of the 21member Arab League, said the EC remained the most influential factor in Gulf economies given their strong trade and oil partnershio.

per cent and inflict losses on failure and the EC would go

ABU DHABI (AFP) — The regional states of around \$8 billion annually," it said in the

> The EC gets around 39 per cent of its oil needs from the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and 44 per cent of the total GCC oil exports to industrial countries.

The EC is also the biggest commercial partner of GCC states — Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) with their two-way trade peaking to \$36 billion in 1992.

EC and GCC foreign ministers discussed the proposed carbon tax in Brussels earlier this month and agreed to form a committee to pursue negotiations after strong opposition by the Gulf "The carbon tax will push group. But official Gulf media down demand for Gulf oil by 20 believed the Brussels talks were a

ahead with the tax proposals. GCC states argue the tax, which would levy a further \$10 on an imported barrel of oil by the year 2000, targets their vital exports and that the EC is after

budget deficits. But the Europeans insist the tax is not discriminatory against oil imports and is designed to protect the environment by reducing the emission of carbon dioxide.

additional revenue to tackle

GCC nations, which produce 20 per cent of the world's oil output and sit atop 40 per cent of its crude reserves, have warned the carbon tax and a similar tax in the United States could dissuade them from pressing ahead with expanding production capacities, for which more than \$60 billion are needed.

ABU DHABI (R) — The United It was the central bank's first Arab Emirates (UAE) is ensign that it supports national bank couraging mergers of its national to improve their financial posi-

The central bank board of directors approved Sunday a tending to merge to improve their capital bases.
"The board discussed.. propos-

als for consolidating their capital bases and financial positions to enable them to meet international banking and accounting standards," it said.

"(It) approved a central bank programme of support and incentives to local banks intending to merge. The board is aware of the benefits such mergres will give the shareholders and the eco-

mergers before a July 1 deadline banks before a summer deadline requiring 10 per cent capital adequacy, the ratio between share-

holders' equity and assets.

Bankers said some of the UAE's 19 local banks would have programme for local banks in- to merge to meet the requirement. Capital ratios are less than four per cent in some UAE banks

but 10 per cent in stronger units. The UAE requirement is higher than standards set by the Bank for International Settlements

Sixteen national banks published 1992 results by the end of April showing assets rose 2.2 per cent to 100 billion dirhams (\$27 billion). Shareholders' equity stood at 11.65 billion dirhams (\$3 billion), according to UAE stockbroker Ziad Dabbas.

Among the banks which have not yet published results was Union National Bank. The Emirates News Agency said in January it might merge with the National Bank of Abu Dhabi, the UAE's largest bank in terms of assets. A Union National Bank official later denied the report.

The central bank also reviewed applications for more foreign banks to open in the UAE, where 27 foreign banks outnumber local banks, and approved provisions to stop a wave of dud cheques.

"The phenomenon of returned unpaid cheques continued to increase to levels which call for intervention," it said.

The central bank has tightened controls of the banking sector under a plan announced last

Kuwaiti banks lose cheap support funds

JORDAN

KUWAIT (R) — The central bank said Sunday it had withdrawn 590 million dinars (\$1.95 billion) of cheap funds from commercial banks in a move apparently aimed at cutting the cost to the state of a solution to Kuwait's bad debt problems.

Governor Salem Abdul Aziz Al Sabah said the bank had carried out the withdrawal by deducting the equivalent amount from 5.6 billion dinars (\$18.5 billion) of bonds issued by the government to the commercial banks last year. •

"Sheikh Šalem stressed the im-

portance of recovering the sums in a manner that would keep bad effects on banks' positions to a minimum," the official Kuwait News Agency reported.

The governor said in a statement it was important that the withdrawal reduce the government's obligations in respect of bonds it issued to the banks

last year, the agency added.
"The method used for recovering the money took into consideration the positions of the banks, guaranteeing that they would not face any problems in liquidity and the ability to make

profits, in addition to the reduction of the financial burdens of the government," the statement

The bank deposited the sup port funds with the banks in 1986 at interest rates ranging from zero to one per cent per annum in order to help them survive losses incurred by the 1982 collapse of the Souq Al Manakh informal bourse.

The banking system is hand-icapped by tup to \$20 billion in unpaid debts stemming partly from the 1982 Manakh crash and partly from other longstanding the Iraqi occupation.

Concern over the issue has helped keep the economy stagnant despite a post-Gulf war revival in oil earnings. The debtors are believed to include some major businesses. In the first stage of a new

government plan to solve the bad debt problem, the central bank last year bought the banks' entire bad loan portfolios in return for the bonds.

The government paid out 300 interest on the bonds in calendar

six per cent. The rate for 1993 has not yet been set.

Members of the opposition have said the bad debt program- commercial banks as follows: me is excessively costly to the state in a number of ways, among

them bond interest payments. "This will squeeze the banks' profitability somewhat," a com-mercial banker commented.

"The positive aspect is that it will wean them off the central bank and force them to become aggressive and make try to lower lion).

commercial losses aggravated by 1992 after the fixing the rate at their cost of funds," he said. According to 1991 figures, central bank support deposits, then totalling 550 million dinars (\$1.8 dominated National Assembly billion), were held by the six

National Bank of Kuwait 22 million dinars (\$72 million), Gulf Bank 43 million dinars (\$142 million), Commercial Bank 155 nullion dinars (\$511 million) Al Ahii Bank 140 million dinars (\$460 million), Burgan Bank 165 million dinurs (\$540 million) and Bank of Kuwait and the Middle million dinars (\$990 million) in more disciplined and more East 25 million dinars (\$82 mil-

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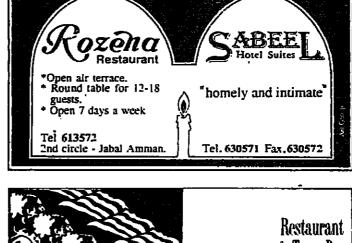
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2nd Division Basketball Championship

Homentmen earn hard-fought victory to return to First Division

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Homentmen converted their first half loss to an 18 point victory as they beat Abbasi 84-66 to clinch the Second Division Basketball Championship title and return to the First Division.

In an earlier match Sunday night at the Sports Palace Court, Yarmouk Amman scored a 78-69 victory over Gazzet Hashem.

Nine teams took part in the championship organised by the Jordan Basketball Federation (JBF). After a month of competition, four teams - Homentmen, Abbasi, Yarmouk Amman and GAzzet Hashem - qualified to the second round, at the end of which, according to the JBF's new regulations, only one team would be promoted to the First Division.

Abbasi had scored a 58-57 win over Homentmen in the first round. However, Homentmen maintained an unbeaten record in the second and final round to clinch the championship. Meanwhile, Abbasi suffered a surprising 76-74 defeat by Yarmouk Am-

After Abbasi's defeat in the final, Yarmouk clinched second place as they had only one defeat to Homentmen, while Abbasi who were defeated twice settled for third place.

Homentmen opened scoring by a three-pointer by playmaker Robert Chatmajian. Another three-pointer and a score by teammate Sevan Sarkissian gave Homentmen the lead 16-9. Abbasi, who needed to score a minimum of 11 points victory to claim the title (because Homentmen enjoyed



Homentmen - back to the First Division

a wider score difference from a 68-50 win over Yarmouk), seemed determined not to allow their all-time rivals a wide scoring advantage. They succeeded in drawing 21-21. Abbasi then took the lead at 27-21 as Homentmen lacked accurate finishing and centres Ibrahim Tadros and Al'a Abu Rahmeh were burdened by three fouls each. Abbasi continued to lead and won the first

In the first three minutes of the second half, Homentmen took advantage of a series of turnovers and scored by Sarkissian and Vicken Avakian to draw at 38-38 and then took the lead 47-42. However Abbasi again tied at 49-49 with

12 minutes remaining. From then on Homentmen's Avakian and Abu Rahmeh se-

cured rebounding and assisted teamantes Chatmajian and Vasken Adjemian to build a somewhat wider 60-51 lead. Cheered by a good number of fans. Homentmen were evidently determined to return to the First Division by scoring

a convincing victory. They out-scored Abbasi 12-2 in the final five minutes as Abbasi surrendered to defeat and tried to lessen the difference. However Homentmen continued to score and Sarkis Jamkotchian sank in a final three-pointer ending the match 84-66 and to clinch the Second Division tro-

FINAL STANDINGS

	P	w	L	SF	ŞA	Pts
Homentmen	3	3	_	227	183	6
Yarmonk Amman	3	2	1	204	211	5
Abbasi	3	1	2	208	216	4
Gazzet Hashem	3	_	3	192	221	3

Knicks stop

NEW YORK (R) - The New ork Knicks handed the Un Bulls their first loss of the 1993 playoffs Sunday to draw first blood in the hotly-anticipated, best-of-seven Eastern Conference finals showdown.

John Starks and Patrick Ewing scored 25 points apiece to lead the Knicks to a 98-90 game one victory over the two-time defending National Basketball Association champions.

Starks buried five three-point shots and Ewing crashed the boards for 17 rebounds, much to the delight of an electric Madison Square Garden crowd, as the Knicks extended their home winning streak to 26 games.

Michael Jordan had a game-high 27 points to lead Chicago, lager fied up 🛊 but he was held to 10 points in the second half on 3-of-13 shooting. Jordan credited Starks for

limiting his scoring.
"In the second half they stepped it up on defence. Starks had the advantage over me today. He made me take some bad shots

and they didn't drop." Starks said: "I just played Michael as hard as I could. The

idea was to tire him, you cannot

stop Michael." Scottie Pippen added 24 points for the Bulls, who were coming

MONTE CARLO (AP) - In a

career that has three world titles

his record sixth win at the Mona-

"I don't have words to talk

about it. The victories here in

different conditions, in different

cars, on different teams speak for

first race throughout my career

and it continues to be special."

and Michael Schumacher, got

into trouble. But Senna cruised

"Itt has always been the very

His major rivals, Alain Prost

themselves," Senna said.

and 39 career victories. Ayrton Senna was at a loss for words on

co Grand Prix.



A one-handed shot from Chicago Bulls' Scottie Pippen (right)

off playoff sweeps of the Atlanta Hawks and Cleveland Cavaliers their quest to become the third team in NBA history to win three successive championships.

New York's dominance of the boards made the difference on Sunday. The Knicks out-

rebounded Chicago 48-28. The story of the game is the board play. As long as we re-bound the basketball like we're capable of rebounding it then that will overcome some of our de-

smoothly to a 52.118-second vic-

tory over Britain's Damon Hill.

whose father, Graham, won the

Monaco race five times. French-

Senna had to battle back from

hard accident Thursday and

started in the second row on the

grid, particularly tough on the

twisting 3.328-kilometre (2.068-

laps in 1 hour 52 minutes 10.947

seconds. He averaged 138.837

kilometres an hour (86.259 mph)

over the total distance of 259.584

kilometres (161.298 miles).

The Brazilian finished the 78

mile) street circuit.

man Jean Alesi placed third.

ficiencies in other areas," said Knicks coach Pat Riley, recently named NBA Coach of the year. "Without a complete effort on the boards we may have come up a little short. We had a great defensive game and a great re-

bounding game to overcome what I consider to be unforced turnovers," Riley said. Those turnovers (23), including nine Chicago steals in the first half, led to a 48-44 halftime lead

It was Senna's third victory of

the season and 39th of his career.

He moved past Prost into the lead

in the driver's standings, 42-37.

given a 10-second penalty. He

came in on the 12th lap to serve it

and stalled the engine twice. He

was almost two laps behind the

leaders when he got back on the

Prost was able to thread his

"It was my best start of the

way through the field and moved

year," Prost said later, complain-

up to fourth at the end.

ing about the penalty.

Prost jumped the start and was

for the Bulls.

SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

Barcelona and Real locked in battle for title

MADRID (R) — Spain's soccer giants Barcelona and Real Madrid stayed locked in a battle for the league title after scoring nine goals between them in big wins Sunday. Champions Barcelona beat first division new boys Rayo Vallecano 4-0 while Madrid went one better against Diego Maradona's Sevilla, thrashing them 5-0. The results left the two leaders glued together on 52 points with four games left to play but Barcelona are ahead on goal difference. Third-placed Deportivo Coruna, who led the table for much of the season, remain in touch, four points off the pace, after a 1-0 home win over Real Zaragoza.

ITTF sets give ban date

GOTHENBURG (R) — Table tennis chiefs decided Sunday to impose a controversial ban on all glue used to stick rubbers to bats from June 1 next year. The International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) executive committee decision followed an agreement at the ITTF's general meeting last Wednesday that the ban, originally due to start on September 1, should be postponed. The delay was agreed to allow further study into replacement materials. Manufacturers have been asked by the ITTF equipment committee to supply pressure-sensitive adhesive sheets as soon as possible to be used instead of glue. The ITTF is concerned about the use of toxic glues which can be a health hazard because of the fumes. Experts believe a glue ban could help the flat-hitting players from Asia more than Europeans, many of whom like to play at a faster pace.

30 injured in Bangladesh soccer violence

DHAKA (AP) — At least 30 spectators were injured when soccer fans, who waited for more than one bour for a local league match to begin, turned violent and clashed with the police, news reports said Monday. Part of the crowd of 20,000 packed into the stadium in Sylhet town, 190 kilometres northeast of Dhaka, threw stones and soda bottles and ransacked the organisers' office Sunday, the daily Janakatha said. Police fought back with teargas, the newspaper said. Organisers said a dispute over selecting a referee for the match between Mohamedan Sporting and South Sumra Club caused the delay. The game was later cancelled.

Davenport tops Provis for European Open title

LUCERNE, Switzerland (AP) — Sixth-seeded Lindsay Daven port of the United States defeated fourth-seeded Nicole Provis of Australia 6-1, 4-6, 6-2 Sunday to win the \$150,000 European Open. It was the first WTA Kraft tour victory for the 16-year-old American, who has been moving up in WTA rankings in the first months of this year. She had risen to 43 from 159 by the start of the Lucerne tournament. It took her 87 minutes to beat Proves, ranked 29th, in the clay court event. As in the semifinals against Sabine Hack of Germany, Davenport lost the second set, but came back in the third to give her opponent little chance. Davenport, who turned pro two months ago, said she was thrilled. "No doubt this was my biggest success," she said.

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH

CUT THE COMMUNICATIONS

 $\nabla \mathbf{A} \mathbf{K} \mathbf{5}$ BAST ◆ A 7 5 2 SOUTH

♦ Q 10

be is borne out by this example.

Votrnsi and his partner bid smoothly to a fine no-trump game.

Senna wins Monaco Grand Prix

this year."

Intrepidity wins classic trial for Sheikh Mohammad

PARIS (R) — Intrepidity, owned by Sheikh Mohammad, kept her unbeaten record with a comfortable victory at Longchamp Sunday in the Prix Saint Alary, an important classic trial for fillies. Ridden by Thierry Jarnet for trainer Andre Fabre, Intrepidity had a length to spare over Dancienne, the mount of Dominique Boeuf, in the seven-runner 10 furlong (2km) event. It was the filly's third success from three races. Connections will decide later whether to aim her for next month's Epsom or French

GOREN BRIDGE

the Russian, since it guaranteed two

tricks in the suit. South played low from dummy and captured East's

jack with the queen. With seven fast

tricks available, declarer elected to develop the club suit for the two needed to fulfill the contract. How-

ever, just in case the queen-jack of spades was doubleton, declarer first

cashed the spade ace. When no hon

or appeared, Votmai switched to

West defended well by ducking

the club to East, who won and re-verted to a diamond. That cooked

declarer's goose. South's last dia-

mond stopper was forced out before the clubs were set up, and West had

the club entry and enough diamonds

testing spades before going after chibs. Unfortunately, by then the

damage had already been done. As so often is the case, hasty play to the

first trick was the cause.

Suppose Votmai had allowed East's jack of diamonds to win the first trick. No return would have

done declarer any harm and, as long as East held at least one of the club

honors, the contract would have been impregnable. The defenders

cannot set up and run diamonds before declarer has the clubs estab-

Alain Prost, France, 37. Damon Hill, Britain, 18.

4. Michael Schumacher, Ger-

5. Mark Blundell, Britain, 6. (tie), Johnny Herbert, Britain, 6. 7. J.J. Lehto, Finland, 5 (tie),

Riccardo Patrese, Italy, 5 (tie),

Martin Brundle, Britain, 5 (tie), Christian Fiftipaldi, Brazil, 5.

12. Philippe Alliot, France, 2. (tie), Fabrizio Barbazza, Italy, 2. (tie), Gerhard Berger, Austria, 2.

Tel.: 634144

11. Jean Alesi, France, 4.

Note declarer's technique in first

to set the contract one trick.

Both vulnerable. South deals. NORTH **4** Q 7 ♥ 10 8 6 4 2 ♣ A K 9 5 3 ♥ Q J 3 ♥ Q 10 2

The bidding: South West North East Page 2.9 Page Pass 2 4 Pass Pass 3 NT Pass 1 + 2 NT

Opening lead: Six of Votmai Trakinov, the Russian emigre, played with such blinding speed that he failed to see at least half the possibilities of any given band. How unfortunate that could he is home out by this exemple.

with stoppers in the unbid suits and mostly soft values, a two-no-trump rebid rather than two spades was the correct action with the South hand, and North's raise was

West's diamond lead delighted

"The penalty was too heavy.

Schumacher, who took over

They won't spare me anything

the lead when Prost dropped

back, lasted until the 33rd lap

before going out in a cloud of smoke with a blown engine.

Formula One auto racing standings after Sunday's Grand Prix of Monaco:

1. Ayrton Senna, Brazil, 42

Drivers Strandings

(After six events):

World Cup qualifying matches

Jiryes Tadros

as the first half ended 1-0. Iraq began an all-out attach in the second half, but Jordan's goalkeeper Abu Daoud upset Iraqi star Ahmad Radi's and team-

Jordan did not get any real chances to score, as Iraq totally dominated throughout the rest of the match, but settled for the draw after a final-minute shot hit the post.

Jordan: Mohammad Abu

Jordan draws again

mates' efforts.

Iraq scored their precious equalising goal in the 74th minute by Munzer Khalaf, a substitute for Ahmad Dahham.



Yousef Al Ammouri

Daoud, Firas Al Khalaileh Murad Al Horani, Ahmad Abdul Qader, Muhannad Mahadin, Jiryes Tadros (Aref Hussein), Nart Yadaj, Jamal Abu Abed, Hisham Abdul Mun'em, Subhi Suleiman, Yousef Al Ammouri (Ahmad Ai Shagran)

Iraq: Radi Shneishel, Salim Hussein, Ahmad Radi, Ahmad Dahham (Munzer Khalaf) Sa'ad Qais. Laith Hussein, All Hussein, Sabah Juayber (Ala's Kazem), Samir Kazem, Sa'ad Abdul Hamid. Referee: Perm Ambrasom

Graf, Sanchez-Vicario, Courier advance at French Open

PARIS (AP) - Steffi Graf and Aranxta Sanchez Vicario, top seeds at the French Open in the absence of Monica Seles, struggled unexpectedly Monday before winning their first-round

By Aleen Bannayan

Special to the Jordan Times

JORDAN AND IRAQ were

held at a 1-1 draw Monday in

the third matches of the Asian

Group A qualification matches for the 1994 soccer World Cup.

Jordan's top scorer Jiryes Tadros put his team in the lead

with an early 12th minute goal

after receiving a pass from Hisham Abdul Munem, a few

metres outside the penalty

Jordanian goalkeeper Mohammad Abu Daoud put up a big effort as he successful-ly terminated 9 definite Iraqi

chances throughout the match, attended by His Royal High-

ness Prince Faisal Ben Al Hus-

sein and over 13,000 soccer

Jordanian players Jiryes Tadros and Yousef Al

Ammouri were injured during

the first half. Ammouri was

carried out on a stretcher,

while Tadros continued to play

but was substituted by Aref Hussein later on.

first match of the competition,

lost a chance to equalise in the

31st minute when a corner kick

hit the post. Seconds later Jor-

dan's defender Ahmad Abdul

Qader saved his team by block-

ing close-range Iraqi shot.
Jordan's Nart Yadaj lost the

chance to score a second goal,

The Iraqi team, playing their

But Jim Courier, the two-time defending men's champion, had a hitch-free debut, powering past Argentina's Roberto Azar, 6-3, 6-3, 6-3 in two hours, 13 minutes.

Cecilia Dahiman of Sweden, ranked only 105th in the world, displayed a powerful serve and steady nerves in forcing No. 1 seeded Graf to a tiebreaker in the first set before the two-time champion triumphed 7-6 (7-4), 6-1. The match took 72 minutes, far

longer than Graf usually takes to dispatch foes at this stage of a tournament. Sanchez Vicario, winner here

in 1989 and No. 2 seed this year, needed 89 minutes to get past Monique Kiene of the Netherlands, 6-3, 7-6 (7-1). The Dutch 18-year-old, ranked only 142nd, led 4-0 and 5-2 in the second set before errors doomed her. Seles, winner here the past

three years, would have been a big favourite again. But she is recuperating after being stabbed by a fan of Graf's April 30 in Hamburg, Germany. Graf, clearly downbeat, ack-

nowledged after her match that the stabbing incident had disturbed her and said she was not yet sure how much a title here would mean to her. A championship would move her ahead of Seles in the rankings, but Graf said being No. 1 no longer was of major interest.

"She played really well and I didn't really expect it," Graf said on Dahlman. "She played some very good points, took a lot of Security has been tightened at

Roland Garros Stadium in the wake of the Seles stabbing. Bodyguards stood behind the players chairs during changeovers, and there was stepped-up screening of spectators entering the complex

(tie), Michael Andretti, United

16. Alessandro Zanardi, Italy, 1.

5. Lotus-Ford, 7. (tie), Minardi-

9. Larousse-Lamborghini, 2.

Constructors Standings:

Williams-Renault 55

McLaren-Ford, 44.

Benetton-Ford, 19

Ligier-Renault, 11

The first men's seed to advance and Michael Stich. was No. 15 Thomas Muster, beat- But no serve-and-volleyer has

Australia's Sandon Stolle, seeded 11th.

and Russia's Alexander Volkov. Argentina. ranked No. 20 in the world.

any player, man or woman, been Cherkasov of Russia, a tough such a strong favourite.

Courtesy of the computer rankings, Pete Sampras holds the top titles here.

challengers are serve-and- No. I-ranked Pete Sampras. volleyers who favor faster sur-

ing fellow Austrian Horst Skoff, won on Roland Garros' red clay 0-6, 6-3, 6-4, 6-2. since France's Yannick Noah In Cedric Pioline, the top-ranked 1983. Strong challenges this year Frenchmen in the field in the could come from Courier's fellow absence of ailing Guy Forget, baseliners, perhaps Spain's Sergi won the tournament's first five- Bruguera, seeded 10th, 18-year-old setter, 3-6, 4-6, 6-3, 6-0, 6-2 over Andrei Medvedev of Ukraine,

Another French hopeful, Fabrice
Santoro, was upset by Japan's
Shuzo Matsuoka, 7-5, 3-6, 6-3,
6-3.

A year ago, Medvedev got into
the field as an unheralded quali,
fier, but won his first three
matches. He opens I uesday First-round losers included against the highest-ranked opport Zina Garrison Jackson and Gigi nent of any seeded man. No. 36 Fernandez of the United States, Guillermo Perez-Roldan ef

Courier isn't even the top seed among the men. Yet rarely in recent Grand Slam history has hatch Tuesday against Andrei clay-court specialist who reached the quarterfinals last year.

seeding. But even Courier's peers Sidelined Agassi plays verbal consider him a good bet to be- gymnastics: Andre Agassi may be come the only player besides sidelined with tendinitis, but that Bjorn Borg to win there straight didn't prevent him from showing up in Paris and taking a bizarre Many of Courier's big-name verbal swipe at top-seeded and

During a promotional exhibifaces, rather than baseliners who tion over the weekend at the ritay are toughest on clay. In addition Paris Country Club. Agassi to Sampras, the serve-and-volley cracked, "nobody should be ranks include Stefan Edberg, ranked No. 1 who looks like he Boris Becker, Goran Ivanisevic just swung from a tree."

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Ford, 7.

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